

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XV.—NEW SERIES, No. 485.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1855.

[PRICE 6d.]

PATRON, H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT. ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION IMPORTANT LECTURES.

On the NEW BANK NOTE, by Dr. BACHOFFNER.
On the TELEPHONIC CONCERT, by INVISIBLE PERFORMERS on four of ERARD'S HARPS, by J. H. PEPPER, Esq.
SPLENDID OPTICAL DIORAMA of the VOYAGES of SINDBAD the SAILOR.
VIEWS of the WAR.
PERKINS'S STEAM GUN, which now discharges 200 BALLS per minute.
Saturday Evenings.—The Bards of Caledonia, by Mr. and Miss Crawford, Mr. Van Noorden, Mr. Waud, and the Royal Polytechnic Band.—Dissolving Views of America.

TO GROCERS.—WANTED, as BOOK-KEEPER and SALESMAN, a Man of experience and good business habits.—Apply to S. SWINDEL, Wholesale Grocer, Halifax.

TO GROCERS' ASSISTANTS.—W. H. ALDRED, Halesworth, Suffolk, has a Vacancy for a YOUNG MAN of experience in the Wholesale and Retail Grocery trade, one who writes a good hand and has a knowledge of book-keeping.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—A Vacancy now occurs for an APPRENTICE in an old established Drapery and Grocery business, where a large trade is carried on.—Apply to W. H. ALDRED, Halesworth, Suffolk.

TO GROCERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED for a Shop in the Country, a respectable, active, steady, SINGLE MAN (not less than 25 years of age), who understands the business; writes a good hand, is a thorough accountant, and can come well recommended. A member of the Christian Church (a Dissenter) preferred.—Apply to G. C. P., Newmarket.

TO GROCERS and PROVISION MERCHANTS.—WANTED, by a Young Man of experience and respectably connected, a SITUATION in the above (either separate or combined) having a thorough knowledge of both branches. References, of the highest respectability, to late employer, for integrity, business qualifications, &c. Country preferred.—Address, G. R., 34, Upper Baker-street, New Road, London.

WANTED immediately, a strong, active, intelligent YOUTH, as improver in the Grocery Trade. Address, JAMES DEBAC, 35, New Charlotte-street, Edgeware-road.

WANTED, a respectable Youth as an APPRENTICE to the DRAPERY TRADE.—Apply, Mr. PEAT, Chertsey, Surrey.

WANTED, a DRAPER'S ASSISTANT of industrious and obliging habits. A member of a Christian Church preferred.—Apply to A. COMFORT, Maidstone.

MESSRS. STOCKBURN & Co., Woollen and Linen Drapers, are in immediate want of a well educated youth as an APPRENTICE. One who has a slight knowledge of the trade will be treated with.—Kettering, February 12, 1855.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED immediately, a YOUNG MAN of ability, experience and character. None other need apply. A Dissenter preferred. Apply to JOHN SHARMAN, Draper, Leighton Buzzard, Beds.

WANTED, a strong, active Youth, about 16 years of age, as an APPRENTICE to the retail Corn and Seed Trade.—Apply to J. MARSH, Sittingborne, Kent.

A BRITISH SCHOOLMASTER WANTED immediately, to take charge of a School of about 70 boys.—Apply to Rev. A. TURNER, Ashford, Kent, stating age, terms, and if married or single. A certificated teacher preferred.

BOOKSELLER'S ASSISTANT.—MESSRS. NOBLE and Co., Boston, Lincolnshire, have a vacancy for a YOUNG MAN who has been accustomed to the Counter, understands the business, and would be able to assist at Book-keeping. Unquestionable references required.

A GENERAL SERVANT WANTED, in a small family where there are no children. She must be an early riser and a good plain cook. A boy is kept to clean knives, boots, &c.—Address, with full particulars, to H. E., Key's Library, Bishop's-road, Paddington.

MEDICAL PROFESSION.—To be immediately disposed of, a long established provincial practice with which a Union district has been long connected, and several medical clubs. To a gentleman of Dissenting principles a very eligible opening is now presented.—Apply by letter, post-paid, to A. B., 3, New King-street, Bath.

EMPLOYMENT of CAPITAL.—Any Person having from £500 to £1,000 unemployed, can have an opportunity of using it advantageously in a small established wholesale business in London. The fullest and most satisfactory information, and the most respectable references can be given. None but principals need apply, and by letter addressed O. P., Mr. Mason's, Chemist, 120, Old-street, St. Luke's.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE (Association for promoting the Repeal of).—The ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will take place at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday, Feb. 21st. The meeting will be addressed by John Bright, M.P.; Richard Cobden, M.P.; George Dawson, M.A.; T. M. Gibson, M.P.; Apsley Pollard, M.P.; Dr. Watts, &c.
Doors open at 7. Chair taken at 8.
Tickets for the Platform may be had of Novello, Dean-street, and 24, Poultry; Cash, Bishopsgate; at Exeter Hall; and Office of Association, 10, Ampton-place, Gray's Inn-road.

THE EASTERN SOCIETY.—The Prospectus of this society, which has been formed to promote the colonisation of Palestine and the re-establishment of the ancient Jewish nation, may be had at Messrs. Partridge, Oakley, and Co's., Paternoster-row, or on application by letter (pre paid), to Mr. JAMES MENZIES, B.A., 5, Cook's-court, Lincoln's-inn, London.

MODERN ROME and the ROMANS.—On THURSDAY EVENING, February 22, 1855, a Lecture on the above subject will be delivered in the CITY-ROAD CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL (in aid of the Building Fund), by the Rev. W. S. EDWARDS, which will include Notices of the Campagna, Suburban Views, Churches, Palaces, Houses of Historic Interest, &c., &c.
Tickets, one shilling each, may be obtained at the Vestry of the Chapel, of the Chapel-keeper and Few Attendants; Messrs. Ford and Son, booksellers, 11, Barnsbury-place, Islington; Mr. Bland, chemist, Penton-street, Pentonville; Mr. Penny, 11, Old Bailey; Mr. Allen, grocer, 86, Goswell-road; Mr. Young, baker, opposite the Chapel, in the City-road; and of Mr. Mackay (Craven Chapel-keeper), Marshall-street, Golden-square.

The Lecture will commence at 7 o'clock precisely.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The TENTH ANNUAL MEETING will be held (D.V.) in EXETER HALL, on TUESDAY EVENING, 20th February, 1855. The chair will be taken by the Right Hon. the Earl of SHAFTESBURY, at a quarter before eight o'clock, precisely. John Cheetham, Esq., M.P.; John C. Colquhoun, Esq.; Rev. John Aldis, of Southwark; Rev. R. Bickersteth, A.M., Rector of St. Giles'; and Canon of Salisbury; Rev. William Brock, of Bloomsbury; Rev. W. Morley Pannison, of Sheffield, will take part in the proceedings. The Committee earnestly solicit the attendance of Young Men, and the public generally.
Tickets of Admission may be had of Messrs. Wicket and Co., 31, Borneo-street; Dalton's, Cockspur-street; Westerton's, Knightsbridge; Cotes' Library, 139, Chesham-street; and at the Offices of the Association, 165, Aldersgate-street, City.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK-HILL.
PATRON—Her Majesty the QUEEN.

For Children of Both Sexes, and from every part of the Kingdom. TWENTY-FIVE VACANCIES are DECLARED for the next ELECTION, which will occur in APRIL. Candidates must be between 7 and 11 Years of Age, and in good health. Forms of application to be obtained at the Office, and must be returned to the Secretary before the 1st March. With ordinary effort every case must succeed, as the votes polled at one election are carried to the credit of the child at the next.

Office, 32, Ludgate-hill, London. JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.
Contributions are much needed, and earnestly solicited.

DISEASES of the EAR.—ROYAL DISPENSARY for DISEASES of the EAR, DEAN-STREET, SOHO-SQUARE.

ESTABLISHED, 1816.
President—THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH, K.G.
Treasurer—JOHN MASTERMAN, Esq., M.P.
Surgeon—WILLIAM HARVEY, Esq., F.R.C.S., 2, Soho-square.
At the Half Yearly Meeting, there were admitted on the books, 700 cases of various conditions of deafness and diseases of the Ear. The Public are earnestly entreated for subscriptions to support the daily increasing number of applicants, which will be thankfully received by Messrs. Coutts and Co., Strand; Messrs. Masterman and Co., and at the Dispensary by H. SMYTH, Secretary.

MONEY on MORTGAGE.—£20,000 in sums varying from £250 to £5,000, is ready to be advanced on mortgage, by JOHN COPLAND, Chelmsford, Essex.

SUNDAY DRINKING.—Printed Forms of Petition for the Prohibition of the Sunday Sale of Intoxicating Drinks, may be had, free of expense, on application to the Rev. DAWSON BURNS, 66, Bishopsgate-street Within, London.

J. TURNER & SON, CABINET, CHAIR, and SOFA MANUFACTURERS, UPHOLSTERERS, and GENERAL FURNISHERS, 42, Great James's-street, Bedford-row; Manufactory, St. John's-road, Hoxton, London.
The Cottage or Mansion completely furnished in the most modern and elegant style, at manufacturers prices. Design and Price Books gratis on application.

IMPORTANT to EMIGRANTS and the PUBLIC GENERALLY. PLUMBE'S SOUTH SEA ARROW-ROOT.—The genuine and superior qualities of this article have long established it in public estimation. It is greatly preferred by the most eminent Physicians in London for Invalids, and as the best food for infants. It also forms a light nutritious diet for general use, and is most valuable in all cases of Diarrhoea. It is strongly recommended for Cholera; acting as a preventive it should be used freely during the Epidemic.
Directions accompanying each packet, which bears the signature of A. S. PLUMBE, 3, ALIE-PLACE, GREAT ALIE STREET, WHITECHAPEL. Agents appointed in all parts of Town and Country. Retail in London by Snow, Paternoster-row; Ford, Islington; Morgan, Sloane-street; Williams, Moor-gate-street; Medes, Camberwell; Poulton, Hackney; and others.

23, Crown-street, Reading.
ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG LADIES, by Mrs. S. W. KILPIN and Miss FULLER. Testimonials, references, and terms, upon application.

ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG LADIES, 4, Cromer-terrace, Grange-road, Dalston.
The MISSES MACKENZIE receive and educate Young Ladies in a superior manner with the comforts of Home.—Terms reasonable.—References to Ministers and Parents of Pupils. Apply for circular as above.

HYDE PARK SCHOOL, HEADINGLEY, LEEDS.—The course of instruction includes the Latin, Greek, French, and German languages; Chemistry, Drawing, and Drilling, together with the usual branches of a good English education.
Quarters commence January 30th, April 10th, July 31st, and October 9th, 1855.
Terms may be had on application to the Rev. R. Brewer.

PORTLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL, PLYMOUTH, conducted by Mr. R. F. WEYNOUTH, M.A. (of University College, London), M.R.A.S., &c. &c., assisted by well qualified and experienced Masters.

The Course of Studies pursued at this Establishment is suitable as preparatory either for a College Course or for Professional or Commercial Life.

The house is very healthily situated in the highest part of the town, and close to the northern outskirts, but at a convenient distance for sea-bathing.

Terms, from 35 to 45 guineas per annum.

HOMERTON COLLEGE, the Training Institution of the Congregational Board of Education.
The next Session commences April 1st, 1855, when there will be Vacancies for Male and Female Students. Applications for admission into the College, and for Teachers, to be addressed to the Principals, the Rev. W. J. UNWIN, M.A., The College, Homerton, near London. As applications from Schools have frequently to be declined from want of suitable Teachers, a Register is kept of Teachers holding the principles of the Board who are in want of Situations.
WILLIAM RUTT, Hon. Sec.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.—THE DISTINCTIVE FEATURES of this Association are—That all Education should be religious but, at the same time, so free from SECTARIAN INFLUENCE, as to command the sympathy and co-operation of ALL DENOMINATIONS of EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS; and that the STATE being incompetent to give such an Education to the people, should not interfere in the matter, but leave it entirely to VOLUNTARY EFFORT.

Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, G. W. ALEXANDER, Esq., 40, Lombard-street; or at the office of the Association, Walworth-place, Walworth London.

HENRY RICHARD, } Hon. Secs.
JOSEPH BARRETT, }
7, Walworth-place, Walworth.

TOWN TALLOW-MADE CANDLES.
GOOD MOTTLED AND YELLOW SOAP.
OIL OF ALL KINDS.
Chaplin and Lambert, 89 and 90, Leather-lane, Holborn.

PIANOFORTES WHOLESALE.—Buy your Pianofortes of the Manufacturers, at the Wholesale Trade Price quotations. An excellent Pianoforte, 23 Guineas, others at 24, 25, 28, 30, and upwards. Each instrument is warranted perfect, and packed for the country, free of expense.
RALPH SMITH and Co., Manufacturers to the trade, 171, Bishopsgate-street, London.

"We have seen from purchasers and competent judges the most satisfactory testimonials to the fulness of power, richness of tone, and other excellences of the instruments furnished by Messrs. R. Smith and Co."—Hatchman, Jan. 5, 1853.

BEST COALS ONLY.—COCKERELL and CO., COAL MERCHANTS to Her MAJESTY.—Cash price to-day, 35s. per ton for screened unmixd Best Coals (officially certified), to which quality their trade has been exclusively confined for the last twenty years.—Purfleet Wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars, and Eaton Wharf, Belgrave-place, Philico

COALS.—Eastern Counties Railway.—The following are this day's prices of COALS brought to London by this railway:—From the county of Durham—Stewarts Wall's-end 32s. per ton. Whitwell or Old Etherley, Wall's-end, 27s. per ton. From the Yorkshire and Derbyshire coal fields, best quality—Silkstone double screened, 24s. per ton; Rothwell Haigh, Clay Cross, Taptons, screened, 22s. 6d. per ton; 2nd quality, screened, 23s. 6d. per ton; hard steam coals, 22s. Baker's Hartley's, 21s. per ton. These coals will be delivered at the above prices two miles from the Mile-end or Bishopsgate Stations. Beyond two and under five miles 1s. per ton extra. Beyond 5 miles 1s. per ton per mile extra. Orders may be addressed to Mr. ALFRED S. PRIOR, Mile-end or Bishopsgate Stations. Cash to be paid on or before delivery.
By order, J. B. OWEN, Secretary.
Bishopsgate Station, January, 1855.

PUBLIC CEMETERY CONVEYANCE.

Well-appointed Hearses leave daily for the different New Cemeteries of the Metropolis—Charge for conveyance of Adults, 10s.; Children, 7s. Mourning Coaches follow (when required), charge for each mourner 5s. there and back. Orders received by ANTHILL and Co., 65, Judd-street, St. Pancras; 6, Crawford-street, Marylebone; and 150, Blackfriars-road, Surrey. Adults First-class Carriage Funeral, and Grave in a Cemetery at Tooting, Finchley, or Hanwell, including every expense, £10; Second ditto, £6; Third-class, £3 10s.; Children's ditto, £1 10s. See Prospectus.

LOANS, AT 25 PER CENT. PER ANNUM,
FROM £20 TO £1,000.
**NEW NATIONAL LIFE, FIRE, AND
LOAN COMPANY.**
484, Oxford-street, Bloomsbury, London.
THOMAS BOURNE, Resident and Managing Secretary.

NATIONAL GUARDIAN ASSURANCE
OFFICE—19, MONAGATE STREET, LONDON.
Branch offices at Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, New-
castle-upon-Tyne, Hamburg, and Port of Spain.
Every description of Assurance effected upon equitable terms.
Eight-tenths of the profits divided amongst the assured.
Prospectuses to be had on application.
JESSE HOBSON, Secretary.

**NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.—BANK OF
DEPOSIT, NATIONAL ASSURANCE AND INVEST-
MENT ASSOCIATION, No. 3, Pall Mall East, London. Estab-
lished A.D. 1844. Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.**
The Warrants for the Half-yearly Interest, at the rate of 5 per
cent. per annum, on Deposit Accounts, to 31st December, are
ready for delivery, and payable duty.
PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.
Parties desirous of Investing Money are requested to examine the
plan of the BANK OF DEPOSIT. Prospectuses and Forms for
Opening Accounts sent free on application.

NOTICE.
**SECURITY MUTUAL LIFE ASSUR-
ANCE SOCIETY, 3, Charles-street, St. James's-square,
London: incorporated under Act of Parliament.**
An Advertisement containing a full statement of the Society's
original and most comprehensive plan will appear in THE TIMES
of MONDAY NEXT, the 19th INSTANT, comprising Assurance
of Healthy Lives, Dissolved Lives, Annuities on Healthy and
Dissolved Lives, Endowments, Accidental Death Assurance, Rail-
way Passengers' Assurance, Maritime Passengers' Assurance.
HENRY SALTER, Managing Director.
JAMES PULSFORD, Secretary.
AGENCIES.—The Directors will be glad to communicate with
gentlemen who wish to be connected with an office that they can
thoroughly recommend to their connections, and, feeling that, will
act with energy. The Society spares no pains to assist its agencies,
and requires corresponding vigour. Good commercial references
required.

ACHILLES INSURANCE COMPANY,
25, CANNON-STREET, LONDON.
19, PRINCESS-STREET, MANCHESTER.
CAPITAL: £100,000, in 10,000 Shares of £10 each.
With power to increase to One Million.
EDWARD MIAL, Esq., M.P., Chairman.
Col. LOTHIAN S. DICKSON, Deputy Chairman.
The advantages offered by this Company will be seen on an
Investigation of its Rates of Premium, which are based upon the
latest and most approved corrected Tables of Mortality, and the
terms of its Loan business. It offers to the Assured the security
of a large subscribed Capital, combined with all the advantages of
a Mutual Assurance Office. Eighty per cent. of the Profits being
divided amongst the Policyholders every five years.
POLICIES ARE INDISPENSABLE.
No CHARGE is made for POLICY STAMPS OR MEDICAL FEES.
One THIRD of the Premiums on Assurances of £500 is allowed
to remain unpaid, and continues as a claim on the Policy.
Policies not forfeited if the Premiums are not paid when
due.
Loans are granted to Policyholders on liberal terms. A
Policy of the amount only of the sum borrowed, being as collateral
security, required.
For the convenience of the WORKING CLASSES Policies are
issued as low as £20, at the same Rates as larger Assurances.
Premiums may be paid Quarterly, Half-yearly, or Annually.
Any other Particulars, or Rates of Premium required for any
contingency, can be obtained of the Agents of the Company, or at
the Chief Office, 25, Cannon-street, or of the Secretary.
HUGH BROWN TAPLIN, Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
To secure the advantage of this year's entry, PROPOSALS
MUST BE LODGED AT THE HEAD-OFFICE, OR AT ANY OF THE
SOCIETY'S AGENCIES, ON OR BEFORE 1st MARCH.
INSTITUTED 1831.

**SCOTTISH EQUITABLE MUTUAL
LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.**
(Incorporated by Royal Charters, and Special Act of Parliament.)
Head Office—EDINBURGH—26, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE.
LONDON—136, Bishopsgate-street, Cornhill.
The SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY
is an Institution peculiarly adapted to afford Provision for
Families. It was established in the year 1831, upon the principle
of MUTUAL CONTRIBUTION, the Surplus or Profit being
wholly divisible among the Members; and the Additions which
have been made to Policies at the Periodical Investigations of the
Society afford satisfactory evidence of the prosperity of the
Institution, and the great advantages derived by its Members.
The following Examples exhibit the Additions already made:—
A Policy for £1,000, opened in 1833, is now increased to
£1,363 8s.
A Policy for £1,000, opened in 1836, is now increased to
£1,481 18s. 10d.
A Policy for £1,000 opened in 1840 is now increased to
£1,810 18s. 7d.
The Profits are ascertained and divided triennially among
Policies of more than five years' duration.
The Annual Revenue is upwards of £150,000.
The Amount of Assurances in force is upwards of Four
Millions and a Quarter Sterling.
The amount paid to the Representatives of Deceased Members
exceeds £200,000 sterling.
The Total Amount of Vested Additions allocated to Policies
exceeds £200,000.
The Accumulated Fund is upwards of £250,000.
Loans granted to Members to the extent of the office value of
their Policies.
Copies of the Annual Report, Forms of Proposal, and all
information may be had on application at any of the Society's
Offices in town or country.
ROBERT CHRISTIE, Manager.
WILLIAM FINLAY, Secretary.
W. COOK, Agent,
136, Bishopsgate-street, London.

January, 1855.
LIST OF LOCAL AGENTS.
BARNES—Whitbread, Edward, Stationer.
BATTERSEA—Buckmaster, J. C., New-road, St. John's-hill.
BRIGHTON—Price, J. M., Chemist, 3, Loughborough-place.
CLAPHAM—Balls, Charles, Scientific and Literary Institution.
COMMERCIAL-ROAD EAST—Newton, J. G., Grocer, 6, Grosvenor-street.
DE BEAUVOIR TOWN—Fettifer, E. H., Chemist, 6, Southgate-
road.
HACKNEY—Stebb, Richard, jun., 2, Denmark-place.
ISLINGTON—Innes, Robert, Common Agent, 36, Gibson-square.
KENTISH-TOWN—Horton, Henry, Chemist, 3, Commercial-
place.
LAMBETH—Roffey, Thomas, Solicitor, 59, Walcot-place East.
MILE-END—Sharp, George, 3, Ireland-row.
PIMLICO—Carrack, James, Chemist, 46, Churton-street.
PUTNEY—Stewart, John, High-street.
STRATFORD—McCash, William, Baker.
SYDENHAM—Daws, Thomas, House Agent.
WALWORTH—Turner, W., St. John, House Agent.
WANDSWORTH—Brooks, Charles, Chemist.
WHITECHAPEL ROAD—Nicholson, James, 7, Mount-place.

**BANK FOR LARGE OR SMALL INVESTMENTS.
PERPETUAL INVESTMENT, LAND,
and BUILDING SOCIETY.**
22, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON.

DIRECTORS.
GOVER, JOHN, Esq., New Kent-road, Chairman.
BURGESS, JOSEPH, Esq., Keene's-row, Walworth.
BURTON, J. R., Esq., Dover-road, and Barnston.
CARTWRIGHT, Esq., Colindale-place.
GUTHRIE, F., Esq., Aldersgate-street.
GOVER, W., Esq., Leamington, Kent.
JENNINGS, S., Esq., Gibson-square, Islington.
MILLAR, H. J., Esq., Northampton.
PRATT, R., Esq., Fleet-street, and Cockfield.
MANAGERS.
PELLATT, A., Esq., M.P., Southwark.
GOULD, GEORGE, Esq., Loughton.
LOW, J., Esq., Gracechurch-street.
MANN, J., Esq., Charterhouse-square.
AUDITORS.
BURGE, GEORGE W., Esq., Hackney.
MIERS, T., Esq., Upper Clapton.

BANKERS.
Messrs. BARCLAY, BEVAN, TRITTON, and Co.,
20, Lombard-street.
SOLICITORS.
Messrs. WATSON and SONS, Boulevard-street, Fleet-street.
SURVEYORS.
Messrs. W. and G. PUGH, Blackman-street, Borough.
PROGRESS OF THE SOCIETY.
Shares Issued..... 8,329
Advanced in Mortgage..... £27,726 5s

This Society offers a secure and safe mode for the investment of
large or small sums of money, the security for which is unques-
tionable, the funds being all advanced upon Freehold, Copyhold,
or Leasehold Property.
SHARES.—A £10 Share may be paid by instalments in the same
manner as deposits in Savings-banks; a £25 Share, by the pay-
ment of 1s. per month for 7½ years; a £50 by the payment of 4s.
per month for 15 years; a £100 by the payment of 8s. per month
for 15 years, or of 10s. per month for 7½; a £150, by the pay-
ment of 10s. per month for 15 years, or of 20s. per month for 7½
years.
Shares subscribed in full will bear a fixed interest at 5½ per
cent. per annum, payable half-yearly.
Five per cent. compound interest allowed upon the withdrawal
of subscriptions, which can be done at a short notice.
Money lent to Shareholders upon the security of their Shares.
Deposits received daily, and interest from 4 to 5 per cent. per
annum allowed. Only a short notice (usually a week) required
for the withdrawal of Deposits.
This Society is adapted for the securing of Annuities, Endow-
ments, and Apprenticeship Fees, particulars of which can be
ascertained upon application.
In this Society there is no Personal Liability, and the whole of
the Profits belong to the Shareholders.
Ministers and Teachers desirous of promoting provident habits
should form "Penny Banks" in connection with their Congrega-
tions and Schools, and invest the Money with this Society, which
can be done at 5 per cent. interest.
Money advanced for the Erection of Houses, Chapels, and
Schoolrooms.
Shares may be taken, Prospectuses had, and information ob-
tained at the Office of the Society, between the hours of Nine
and Five, and on Wednesdays from Nine to Eight, or a Prospectus
will be sent upon receipt of one postage stamp.
A fair remuneration allowed to persons acting as Agents of the
Society.
JOHN EDWARD TRESIDDER, Secretary.

**MONEY ADVANCED, to any Amount,
on LIFE INTERESTS, MORTGAGE, or REVERSIONS.**
Loans of every description on good personal and other security.
Large or small capitalists, desirous of safe and profitable invest-
ments, are invited to communicate with the Advertiser.
Address to Mr. H. L.E.A. No. 23, Great Winchester-street, City.

**MONEY LENT on PERSONAL
SECURITY, LEASES, LIFE POLICIES, &c.—Sums
from £5 to £500 advanced two or three days after application, for
Two Years, One Year, or Six Months, repayable any day in the
week, by weekly, monthly, or quarterly instalments; and Good
Bills Discounted. Charges moderate, and strict confidence
observed.**

**LONDON AND PROVINCIAL LOAN AND DISCOUNT COM-
PANY.** Private Office, 60, Goswell-road, London.—Open daily
from 9 till 5, thus avoiding inconvenience or Publicity.—Forms
of Application and Prospectus Gratis, on receipt of Stamped
Envelope.
H. FLEAR, Manager.

**SIX for 40s—EVANS' ELYSIAN
SHIRT** is the newest and unquestionably the best fitting
shirt now made. Youth's, six for 18s. 6d.; three fold collars,
10s. 6d. per doz.; flannel shirts, 10s. 6d. Easy directions for
measuring post-free (six years' with B. Nicoll); French and
German spoken.—13A, NEW BOND STREET, nearly opposite
Grafton-street.

BRUSSELS CARPETS at 10d. a Yard.
Cheaper than last year, in all the newest patterns and
best make.

Double and single width Damask, Reps, Brocades, French
Damasks, Utrecht Velvets, &c., &c., (Curtains made, trimmed,
and fitted complete with Cornices, &c.)
Fancy and Easy Chairs, Settees, Couches, Conversation Sofas,
in French and English Stoffings of the most elegant forms, Loo
and Dining Tables, Wardrobes, Dinner Waggon, Devonports,
Drawers, Bedsteads, Purified Bedding, &c., &c., all of which are
cheap in the same ratio as the carpets.

The recent unsatisfactory state of our foreign trade, and con-
sequent large failures at home, have enabled us to buy and sell at
these present low prices. The process of restoration in our Colonies
is long must be rapid, and then prices will rise. Merchants,
Householders, &c., will do well to buy at the lowest point,
which is now.—CHARLES MBEKING and COMPANY, 141 and
143, Holborn-hill, second door from Furnival's-inn.

THE IDONEOUS TROUSERS.—An
excellent fitting Garment, unsurpassed for ease, elegance,
and comfort, in sitting, walking, and ESPECIALLY RIDING.
Modern and best materials only employed. First price, One Guinea.
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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XV.—NEW SERIES, No. 485.]

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

LORD JOHN'S LEGACY.

LAST words are proverbially impressive—the last words of eminent men especially so. Whether Lord John Russell's Education Bill may be regarded as the testament of a deceased Minister, time alone can determine. As a Plenipotentiary to the Vienna Conference, it is not impossible that he may win his way back once more to office, and once more secure the trust of those who prefer to believe that he is the most faithful exponent of the spirit of the age. It is only hypothetically, therefore, that we can look upon him as a defunct member of the Cabinet. But, for the time being, Lord John may be dealt with as deceased—and his last words treasured up as precious. The late President of the Council made his will, deposited it with the Commons, and departed his office. We open the document, and find it an "Education Bill."

The country, we think, has much reason to be thankful that the opposition of the Voluntaries to all legislative schemes of education has been hitherto successful—for every defeated scheme has been followed by improved proposals. There has been for the last few years such a rage for transferring the expense of the education of the working classes from themselves or their benevolent neighbours to the public, that but for active and dogged resistance on the part of a minority who have no faith in the compulsory development of national intelligence, it is pretty certain that any plan would have been accepted. Lord John's difficulty in settling this matter to the country's satisfaction, has taught him modesty. He is by no means so imperative as once he was—he seems to have abandoned the expectation of being able to constitute a new State department for the management of education. His present bill is merely enabling in its character. It leaves almost everything to local authority, insisting only on Government inspection. Its machinery is simple. Its provisions liberal. It is the fairest embodiment of an unsound principle which has yet been put forth—so fair, that we can hardly anticipate that a dominant Church will acquiesce in its adoption.

The main provisions of the bill are the following. Without a single word of preamble it enacts that Town Councils may, after due notice, determine at any meeting at which two-thirds of the body are present, upon a scheme for the promotion of education within their respective cities or boroughs, to be submitted to the Committee of Council on Education for approval. Parishes also which have no municipal government may acquire the like privilege by a majority of the votes of their ratepayers, taken by the churchwardens, upon a written requisition of a fifth of their number. If the scheme in either case is approved, rates may be levied for defraying the expense of public schools, to the amount of sixpence in the pound, on all rateable property in the borough or parish. The scheme originally determined on may be altered from time to time with the approval of the Education Committee, or the order of the Education Committee may be wholly recalled, after which the authority of Council or Vestry will cease. But the entire management of the schools thus

maintained, is to be left in the hands of Town Councils and Vestries, or such committees as they may appoint for the purpose, subject, however, to Government inspection, and in the case of schools already established, to the rights of trustees or visitors. In all schools thus supported it is made imperative that the Holy Scriptures shall be daily read, but not as a lesson-book—but the children of Roman Catholics and Jews are not to be obliged to be present during their reading—and in no such school are the children of Protestant Dissenters, Roman Catholics, or Jews, to be compelled to learn catechism, attend church, or be present at any religious observance, without the consent of their parents. The bill consists of twenty-two clauses—but short as it is, it does not strike us as having been drawn with precision or care. The wording, however, might easily be amended in committee, supposing the bill to be proceeded with.

The first observation we have to make in the way of criticism on this bill is, that it strikes us as a piece of intolerable oligarchic presumption to require a submission to the approval of the Committee of Council on Education of every scheme of education adopted by Town Councils or Parish Committees, and to be carried out by means of local rating. What claim has the President of Council, or the half dozen gentlemen who are associated with him, to pronounce authoritatively upon the plans which municipalities or parishes may agree upon for the promotion of education within their respective limits? If the money to be expended in each instance were to be paid out of the coffers of the State, some supervision by the State of the manner of that expenditure would no doubt be fitting and requisite. But it is not so. The taxation is to be purely local, and requires nothing beyond local control. Why, then, are we to have any intermeddling by central authority? Cannot local bodies be trusted on this subject? and if not, is a Privy Council Committee more reliable? The proposal seems to us to cast a gratuitous reflection upon, either the capacity or the honesty of local authority in this matter, unless it may be thought necessary to save the pride of the Committee in Council, and to preserve and multiply Inspectorships in its gift.

Then, again, we can anticipate little practical advantage to the education of the people under this bill. In our rural parishes it will leave schools very much as they are now, with this difference only, that they will be maintained out of the poor-rate, instead of by children's pence supplemented by voluntary contributions. Schoolmasters and schoolmistresses will, perhaps, be somewhat better paid, but we doubt much whether their status will be thereby raised, or their greater efficiency secured. The clergyman will be most relieved by the measure—for it is much more in accordance with his tastes to make an order on the poor-rates, than to beg an offering from the benevolent. But generally speaking, we see little prospect of any marked improvement in the quality of the instruction given at such schools, or of any great addition to the amount of it. There will be in most instances the same visitor, the same president, and the same committee of management as now—but not, we fear, the same stimulus to exertion, or the same apprehension of rivalry. Just at first, renewed activity may be put forth—but after a few years the machinery will probably fall into decay, and little be left but the right of the parochial pedagogues to their maintenance out of the poor-rates. The restrictions upon the teaching of the Church catechism, and the taking scholars of all denominations to church on Sundays and Saint's days, will make many of the clergy wince, and possibly lead to a rejection of the bill—but, on the other hand, the bait is tempting, and, practically, very little clerical power will be surrendered by acquiescence in the measure, and much clerical comfort will be gained.

In boroughs and cities, there will, doubtless, be a predominant disposition to adopt the bill, and a better use made of its provisions. But, to a large extent, it will soon destroy all the activity and vigilance which are secured at present by compe-

tition and rivalry. For, of course, self-supporting schools, except of the very highest order, must succumb under the operation of this measure. Much will then depend upon the character of the municipal Education committee. We can conceive instances in which an able and zealous committee might do much to improve existing educational institutions—and we can also very well imagine the contrary. The transference of the expense of education from voluntary to compulsory provision will soon, under Lord John's Bill, be all but universal—the actual advantages resulting from it will, we suspect, prove but partial and temporary—the evil will be permanent and irremediable. And we are very fearful that the bill is so framed as to secure for it (unless disputed by High Churchmen) an easy and rapid passage through both Houses of Parliament.

AN AID TO ACTION.

HAVING lately urged upon the anti-state-church party a specific course of action during the present session, we are glad to have put into our hands an "Occasional Paper," about to be issued by the committee of the Liberation Society, which will be of great practical value in the direction we have indicated. It is entitled, "Ecclesiastical Incidents and Division Lists of the Parliamentary Session of 1854;" and it is to be circulated at the present juncture because "the incidents of one session not unfrequently foreshadow those of the next—the bill, the debate, and the vote of last session, indicating the quarter from which danger threatens, the point at which an opponent should be assailed, and the men whose acquiescence in a policy has to be won."

Under the head of "Admission of Dissenters to Oxford—Church Rates—Measures of Church Reform—Roman Catholic Questions—Miscellaneous," we have presented, in a pithy form, the leading provisions of most of the many ecclesiastical measures discussed last session, the fate which they experienced, and the noteworthy facts elicited in the course of the debates.

To these are added, what is of greater importance, "the votes given by the members of the House of Commons on such divisions as afford the best criteria for judging of the sentiments or leanings of members on ecclesiastical topics." These are so arranged that it can be seen at a glance what members voted, and who were absent on particular divisions—the character of their votes—the explanation of such votes, in many cases, in the fact of their connection with the Government—together with the constituencies and the number of electors respectively represented. Then there is added a list of the changes which have taken place in the composition of the House of Commons, so that we know exactly the material on which we have to work in carrying or opposing the measures which are likely to be shortly submitted to the House of Commons.

Need we say how heartily we concur in what follows?—"The Division Lists should be carefully studied by every Nonconformist elector throughout the kingdom, that votes forgotten by representatives may be remembered to good purpose by constituents; for nothing so quickens the senatorial conscience as the knowledge of the fact, that every bad vote and every unpardonable absence will be recorded, and urged with cumulative force at the next general election. And, without waiting for that day of reckoning, it will be wise to ascertain what, and where, pressure will be needed in 1855, by an inspection of the 'Ayes' and 'Noes' in 1854."

BURIAL-GROUND QUESTIONS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I have headed this letter in the plural form, because, since your columns were last open to me on the subject, communications have reached me which show plainly enough that the intervention of Parliament is needed for the settlement of other matters than the refusal of bishops to consecrate burial-grounds, except on unreasonable terms.

One of the most important of these is the payment

of burial fees—it is in fact the root of all the difficulties with which we have to deal, since the efforts of the episcopal and clerical body are directed to the enforcement of the alleged right of the clergy to continue to receive the fees hitherto paid them—a right, says the Bishop of London “as clear as their right to tithes.”

Now, it is a very instructive fact, that all burials were originally extra-mural, and this practice, Burn tells us, continued to the age of Gregory the Great, “when the monks and priests began to offer prayer for souls departed, procured leave for their great ease and profit, that a liberty of sepulture might be in churches, or in places adjoining them.” The superstition has been given up, but this “mercenary reason”—I still quote Burn,—has prevailed to perpetuate intra-mural interments until now.

Sanitary reform has closed, or is closing, the churchyards, and now the vital point with the clergy is to prevent the fees following the dead to our suburban cemeteries. And notwithstanding the bitter lamentation of Bishop Bloomfield, they have been too successful in their efforts. Shareholders in certain joint-stock cemeteries in the metropolis will remember, if the public have forgotten, the disgraceful episcopal huckstering which preceded the passing of their acts; the bishop consenting to waive opposition in the House of Lords only on agreement to his terms—rising higher and higher in the case of each bill—that on every body buried in consecrated ground a poll-tax should be paid to the clergyman of the parish from which it had been brought!

The same end is gained in a modified degree by the acts under which new burial-grounds are now being provided all over the country. For, the consecrated portions of such grounds taking the place of the closed churchyards, “every incumbent for which such ground is provided, shall by himself, or his curate . . . perform the same duties, and have the same rights and authorities . . . in the burial of the remains of parishioners or inhabitants of the parish of which he is such incumbent, and shall be entitled to receive the same fees in respect of such burials which he has previously enjoyed and received,” (15 and 16 Vic., c. 85, s. 32). And the claims and rights of those humbler members of the parochial staff, the clerk and sexton, are similarly recognised.

The effect of this enactment is, that instead of the new burial boards having power to construct scales of clerical fees, a new sanction is given to the varying, absurd, and, in many instances, extortionate fees, heretofore levied in thousands of parishes—levied on the Hibernian principle laid down by Linwood, “For burial ought not to be sold; but albeit the clergy may not demand anything for burials, yet the laity may be compelled to observe pious and laudable customs!”

Perhaps the uninitiated Dissenter will reply—“What is that to us, seeing that the clergy can claim these fees only for burials in the consecrated ground, and that we may therefore, if we choose, place ourselves beyond their reach?” Well, until within the last few months, it appeared to me that Dissenters might, if they wished, escape the clerical shears, by resorting to the unconsecrated ground, but facts brought to my knowledge by correspondence and by recent visits to the provinces, have satisfied me that, in the practical working of the system, Dissenters, though burying in unconsecrated ground, may still be heavily but unconsciously mulcted in the satisfaction of the demands of the parochial clergy.

The natural effect of high clerical fees in the consecrated portions of burial-grounds would be, to render interment there more expensive than elsewhere, and the operation of the free-trade principle would have the effect of multiplying interments in unblessed but less costly ground. Churchified burial boards being sharp enough to perceive this, how do they act? Why, in some cases at least, by charging the same fees in the unconsecrated as in the consecrated ground! Sometimes this is done “because it would never do to let all the business go into the unconsecrated ground”—sometimes because “it is not fair to make fish of one and flesh of another,” and sometimes—and let this reason be especially marked—because as the board loses on some of the interments in the consecrated side, from the largeness of the clerical fee, it must obtain the deficiency from the parties buried in the other section.

As an illustration, I have before me the table of fees of the Halesworth Burial Board. That board consists of five Churchmen and three Dissenters. It has built two chapels precisely alike, and separated the two portions of ground by a gravel walk only. It has also adopted the same table of fees for all parts of the ground. This looks well enough on the surface, but let the public learn how the fees are appropriated, and they will see the fiscal injustice which is inflicted under this smooth exterior.

The Dissenting minister who may officiate does not in any case have a fee of more than half a crown, while the incumbent receives fees ranging from that up to seven pounds! Yet a person cannot be buried in the unconsecrated ground in the highest class (“Tomb over vault of width of two coffins, with palisades”) without the payment of the same fees as on the other side; but then in that case the seven pounds go into the hands of the board, who give the Dissenting minister half a crown out of it!! This is the most flagrant case, but the same principle is acted upon all through the scale. Under the guise, therefore, of making Churchmen and Dissenters pay equally, this Board is fleeing the latter to enable them to meet the exorbitant claims of the ministers of the former!

Sir, I trust that this piece of information will suffice to induce Dissenters to watch the new burial boards with redoubled vigilance,* and where such boards are about to be appointed, that they will regard the con-

* It should be known that the Minute and other books of the board are open to inspection.

stitution of them on an impartial basis as a matter of most urgent importance.

What has been effected at Torrington and at Lindfield, shows that the feeling of the public is so much on our side, that, even in rural parishes, Dissent, weak in itself, but strong in the justice of its principles, may, by the manifestation of firmness, secure almost all that, in this matter, it is possible at present to secure. At Torrington the board will, it is hoped, before long open the unconsecrated portions of their ground, leaving Churchmen to shift for themselves, and, in the meantime, they have agreed to petition Parliament to effect an alteration in the law. At Lindfield, where a persevering opposition has destroyed Church-rates, the Dissenting minister is chairman of the board, the ground has been laid out, and the chapels built much after the fashion of those at Torrington, and in respect to fees and other matters, mutually satisfactory arrangements have, I am told, been made.

As Mr. Fellatt proposes that the whole subject of interments, as affected by recent legislation, should be investigated by a Committee of the House of Commons, it is very desirable that information should be elicited from all quarters, and that those who can furnish illustrations of the working of a bad system, may, by a prompt communication of their knowledge, assist in its destruction or modification.

Your obedient servant,

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS.

2, Serjeant's Inn, Fleet-street, Feb. 13th.

CONVOCAION.

The two Houses of Convocation met again on Thursday. In the Upper House, the Archbishop of Canterbury read a report on the change required in the present constitution of Convocation. The principal changes are, that there shall be a proctor for every archdeaconry elected by the clergy; and that all banished clergy, curates, and chaplains in priests' orders, and licensed by the bishop, shall have a vote. The remainder of the report relates to the mode of doing business in both Houses, founded on precedents. With respect to the vexed questions as to the right of the president of the Upper House to refuse to submit propositions to the Upper House, and as to his power of proroguing Convocation against the wishes of his brethren, as the precedents are not decisive, the report suggests that it would be expedient that he should not be at liberty to refuse to submit propositions; and that while he possesses the power of prorogation, he should, in ordinary prorogations, act with the consent of his brethren. This report was received; but, on the motion of the Bishop of Oxford, the House resolved that it was not expedient to address her Majesty as to any alterations in the constitution.

The Lower House was occupied with the consideration of the resolutions on Church services sent down from the Upper House; respecting which there was great difference of opinion; and strong expressions from Dr. McOaul, Archdeacon Denison, and others, against touching the Prayer Book. At last, a modification of the resolutions sent down by the Upper House was adopted, on the motion of Archdeacon Grant. A committee was appointed, and the House adjourned.

On Friday the meetings were resumed. The Upper House had nothing to do, and only met to enable the Lower House to consider a report of a Joint Committee upon the Clergy Discipline Act. There was a hurried discussion of its recommendations; and, finding that there was not time to deliberate, the House recorded the fact in a resolution, and prayed for a further opportunity. On the motion of the Reverend Mr. Woodgate, it was resolved that it was not expedient to admit laymen to Convocation until the Church can enforce ecclesiastical discipline. The Upper House disagreed with the amendments in their resolutions respecting Church services.

PRAYER AND INTERCESSION.

The following circular has been issued by the Bishop of London:—

London-house, Feb. 5.

Rev. and dear Sir,—It appears to me desirable that the clergy should appoint a particular day during the season of Lent, on which the minds of their congregations may be more specially directed to the offering up to Almighty God of united prayer and intercession for the safety and success of their brethren now serving in our armies and fleets, and for the restoration of peace. I would suggest the third Sunday in Lent for this purpose.

The clergy are not at liberty to depart from the prescribed Order of Common Prayer; but they may, by previous notice, direct the thoughts of their parishioners to this special object.

I am, Rev. and dear Sir, your affectionate friend and servant,

C. J. LONDON.

In reference to this circular a correspondent of the *Daily News* remarks:—The same sort of rigid adherence to form and routine which marks the administration of military affairs in the Crimea, and leads consequently to the most disastrous results, characterises the administration of church matters. At this peculiarly important time, one would think that even bishops would divest themselves of their musty fondness for rubric and liturgy, and strike off a bold, simple, and warm-hearted appeal to their clergy. But no! Charles James of London, albeit the very existence of Great Britain is trembling in the balance, and the country knows not the misery which may be born to it to-morrow, suggests that the season of Lent only is favourable for an act of national prayer and intercession. We must wait, therefore, until the 11th of March (the 3rd Sunday in Lent) before this act of humiliation is performed. As with the War Minister's Department, so with the Church—the instructions of the latter lag behind the necessities of the crisis!

THE PRESENT SITUATION IN PIMLICO. — On

Sunday morning there was publicly posted on the doors of St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, a monition from the Bishop of London, addressed to the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Liddell, the incumbent of the church, at the instance of Mr. Charles Westerton, the churchwarden, directing that the high altar in that church shall be removed, and a decent communion-table substituted.

THE REV. DR. MEADOWS, of ROCHDALE, has “not sanctioned” the branch of the Young Men's Christian Association planted in his parish, “nor was his concurrence asked in regard to a meeting” held in its behalf; yet the Rev. Canon Stansfeld takes part in the meeting, and the Bishop of Manchester, appealed to by the Doctor, says “he has no authority to interfere in the matter.”

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.—STAINLAND, NEAR HALIFAX. — On Tuesday evening, February 6th, a public meeting was held in the new school-room, when the Rev. W. Walters, of Halifax, and Mr. W. Hickman Smith, of London, attended as a deputation. The chair was occupied by E. Walker, Esq.; and the Rev. R. S. Ball, Mr. Mellor, and other gentlemen, took part in the proceedings. There were about 250 persons present, and much interest was excited by the statement of the society's recent operations. A spirited canvass has been commenced; and several influential gentlemen have identified themselves with the society.

CATHEDRAL AND COLLEGIATE CHURCHES.—A return moved for by Mr. Ewart, M.P., just published, shows that the gross total payments made to the English Ecclesiastical Commission since the 21st of April, 1853, on account of any suspended stalls in the cathedral and collegiate churches of England and Wales, amounted to £20,103, of which sum the following are the items:—viz., from 8 suspended canonries of St. Asaph, £720; from 2 suspended canonries of Bristol, £3,917; from 6 of the same belonging to Canterbury, £15,110; from 1 of St. David's, £221; from 3 of Durham, £14,765; from 2 of Ely, £720; from 2 of Exeter, £5,346; from 2 of Gloucester, £2,684; from 1 of Hereford, £1,087; from 6 of Llandaff, £1,745; from 2 of Norwich, £1,671; from 2 of Peterborough, £398; from 1 of Rochester, £1,198; from 2 of Salisbury, £444; from 2 of Wells, £1,472; from 4 of Westminster, £13,769; from 5 of Winchester, £8,576; from 6 of Wincaster, £4,207; and from 6 of Worcester, £3,346.

Religious Intelligence.

LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL-BUILDING SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the friends and supporters of this society was held last Wednesday evening at the Congregational Library, Bloomfield-street, Ealing, where the Rev. W. Walters, Esq., Treasurer of the Society, presided. The Rev. William Leask having commenced the proceedings with prayer,

The Chairman strongly advocated the claims of the society to public support. Wherever there was a chapel built, a congregation collected, and a church formed, an immediate influence for good must of necessity arise, and spread through all the surrounding neighbourhood. They ought never to forget that where a sanctuary was reared and a congregation gathered, efforts will sure to be put forth for the establishment of schools, the Christian visitation of the poor, and all those other means of usefulness employed which were best calculated to meet the wants of the population of the district. It would be found, therefore, in practice, impossible to devise any one means to accomplish the object which their friends had in view in the conferences recently held in that room, more directly and effectually than by endeavouring to advance the interests of that society. (Hear, hear.) The proceedings of the society for the past year, he was happy to say, had been neither less important nor more circumscribed than during that immediately preceding. The society had completed the erection of two additional large places of worship, the one at Craven-hill, Bayswater, near Westbourne-terrace, and the other at Blackheath. This latter chapel, with only one gallery, accommodated 800 persons, and it was already full; and, indeed, the congregation was seriously contemplating the addition of side galleries. (Cheers.) And if they had not the same amount of success to report concerning the other, no one need be surprised; for they certainly did not expect that, in every case, success could be so rapid and decisive. It could not be denied that this kind of labour would sometimes tax the faith and patience of those engaged in it. If, in all cases, they required to be stimulated with immediate success on a commanding scale, they must very speedily give up the work altogether. But then they had proofs in abundance, that if such faith and patience be exercised at the outset, there was nothing to fear. (Hear, hear.) After adverting in detail to the success which had followed their labours in various directions, he said that great things had been done by their friends in Lancashire, and their friends and brethren who are conducting the English Chapel Building Society have accomplished a large amount of good in the various counties of England; and it may be said, he thought, that their existence was probably due to us of the London society. (Hear, hear.) There was one fact in connexion with their history which ought never to be forgotten: they had never had one case of failure to record. (Cheers.) A letter had been received by the committee from the Rev. Dr. Harris, who regretted his inability to be present. There was just one sentence in his communication to which he would invite their special attention. He says:—“Societies for wider objects exist, but yours is a root society, which, if it be duly nourished and sustained, tends to supply sap and life to them all.” (Cheers.)

The Rev. Charles Gilbert proceeded to read the report, prefacing it with the statement that it was the composition of his late colleague in the Secretariat, —the Rev. Thomas Davies. The following is a summary:—

At the last annual meeting, the committee was engaged in the erection of large chapels at Baywater and Blackheath. Both have been completed in the past year.

CHAYEN-HILL CHAPEL, BAYWATER, was opened May 2nd, 1854. It affords sittings for about 1,100 persons; and has appended to it, vestries and spacious school-rooms. The cost of the entire structure is a little more than £5,000.

BLACKHEATH CHAPEL was opened on Tuesday, July 19th, 1854. Though the chapel has been erected by the society, its cost is to be defrayed by the friends at Blackheath, with the exception of £500 granted by this society. It affords accommodation for about 800 persons, with provision for the erection of side galleries to seat about 300 more. Before the chapel was opened, the Rev. James Sherman accepted an invitation to become its minister. The result is, that the chapel is already filled to overflowing, and the erection of side galleries is now under consideration.

BATTLE-BRIDGE CHAPEL.—The Rev. Thomas Seavill has, for some years, been engaged in efforts for the spiritual welfare of the working-classes at Somers'-town and Battle-bridge. During the past two years he has devoted his energies to the erection of a chapel in the latter district. Towards this erection the committee has promised a grant of £500. In December last the chapel was opened. It is a handsome and commodious building, with extensive school and class-rooms, and the site is freehold.

PARK CHAPEL, SYDENHAM, was purchased and reopened by the committee in the year 1853. Its progress during the past year has afforded an ample reward for the labours and outlay which have been devoted to it. In connexion with the ministry of the Rev. C. Hine, the chapel is now well filled. The congregation have taken upon themselves the pecuniary liabilities of the place; and already more than £1,000 has been paid in diminution of the debt, in aid of which effort the committee voted £420.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD CHAPEL.—The committee rejoice to observe the settlement of the Rev. Watson Smith as the minister of this place of worship, and have paid the moiety of their promised grant of £500.

Several new enterprises have been undertaken during the past year.

BATTERSEA.—The committee have purchased a freehold chapel and premises, lately in the occupation of a small body of Wesleyans. A fine field will thus be opened for the preaching of the Gospel, and the establishment of a Congregational church in that locality.

CANONBURY CHAPEL.—Towards the close of the year 1853, the committee secured a very valuable freehold site in the district of Canonbury, at a cost, including the making of sewers, of £1,134. During the year they have been engaged in making preparations for the erection of the chapel. A local committee has been formed, and many subscriptions for the object have been obtained. An architectural design, which promises peculiar advantages, has been selected. The entire cost of the structure, exclusive of architect's fees, is not to exceed £5,500; and the erection will commence as soon as the local subscriptions amount to £1,500. Towards this sum £225 and three congregational collections are promised.

NUNHEAD, PUCKHAM RYE.—More than two years ago the committee secured a valuable freehold site in this district, at the moderate sum of £215. They will proceed to the erection as soon as £500 shall be raised in the locality. Towards this sum £320 have already been promised.

NEW CROSS.—The want of a suitable chapel in this neighbourhood has been pressing felt by the Rev. D. Nimmo and his friends, and they are engaged in efforts for securing that object. The committee have promised £300 in aid of the enterprise.

SHEPHERD.—Repeated efforts have been made by the committee to do something for the evangelisation of this neighbourhood, but hitherto without success. Plans, however, are now under consideration, which it is hoped will speedily result in some active and permanent operations.

TRUST DEED.—The committee have much satisfaction in reporting, that their labours in the preparation of a Model Trust Deed have come to a conclusion. The Deed, in its complete form, was printed in the spring of last year. The committee have endeavoured so to construct it, as to provide, in the most effectual manner, for the security and proper application of the property, the freedom of the churches, the purity of the pulpit, and the permanence of evangelical truth. They rejoice to learn that the result of their labours has met with general approval, and they trust that it will be rendered extensively useful. Persons concerned in providing trust deeds for chapels may obtain copies of the Deed upon payment of 2s. 6d., by applying to the publisher, Mr. Unwin, of Bucklersbury.

FINANCE AND CONTRIBUTIONS.—While the blessing of God has been vouchsafed to the operations of the society, its contributions have been less ample than might have been justly expected. Seeing the extending field for their operations, and feeling the inadequacy of their income, the committee made arrangements for a meeting of ministers and other gentlemen for conference, as to the best means of increasing the resources of the society. It was held at Radley's Hotel. The results of the meeting have been most satisfactory. The chairman, J. R. Mills, Esq., made the munificent proposal to give £1,000 to the society provided other £5,000 should be obtained. Another gentleman, with equal liberality, promised a second thousand towards the proposed amount. Other friends have followed these excellent examples with smaller, but still generous contributions: and the committee have now the satisfaction to report that about £4,000 have already been either paid or promised toward the required £5,000. A source of contributions to which special importance is attached, consists in congregational collections. The number of these during the past year have been but nine. The ensuing year, in this respect, shows brighter prospects; several promises from pastors and deacons have been already received. The committee respectfully but urgently request the attention of the pastors and deacons of all the London churches to the objects and the claims of this society. Surely it is not too much to ask that they would give it a place in their list of collections, at least, once in two years.

SECRETARIAT.—The Rev. Thomas Davies, one of the

Secretaries, having received an invitation to undertake the pastorate of the church assembling in Cannon-street Chapel, Preston, Lancashire, has been consequently under the necessity of resigning his connexion with this society. It was considered by the committee whether one secretary would not be sufficient to conduct the business of the institution; but, after a deliberate consideration of the subject, they have come to the conclusion, that the numerous and varied duties arising out of its extended operations cannot be efficiently discharged without at least as much time and energy as have been heretofore so cheerfully rendered by their two friends who have sustained that office. In accordance with this decision they have the pleasure to announce that they have made arrangements with the Rev. J. Bramall to undertake that portion of the secretariat duties which Mr. Davies formerly fulfilled. They also take this opportunity to announce, that the offices of the society will be removed from the Congregational Library to No. 7, Bloomfield-street, adjoining the Mission-house.

The balance-sheet, which was read by the Treasurer, showed an income, from all sources, of £10,150 9s. 7d., a sum considerably in advance of that reported the previous year; and an expenditure of £2,551, with £389 9s. for management; and he ventured to say, that there was not another society in existence which conducted so large an amount of business at so small a cost. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. James Spence, M.A., of the Foultry Chapel, then delivered an address on "The Imperative Duty of the Disciples of Christ to Provide Chapel Accommodation for the Destitute Portion of the Population around them."

The Rev. George Smith next addressed the meeting on the following topic: "The Encouragement to this duty arising out of the Success of Past Effort."

The Rev. J. C. Galloway, Secretary of the English Congregational Chapel Building Society, was next called upon to address the meeting. The statistical statement which had been made by one of the speakers, in reference to the destitution of London, he might be allowed to observe, did not fully represent the facts of the case. The statement that 700,000 of the population existed for whom no provision had been made, was put forth as the full statement of the evil; but, if so, they must suppose that all the other accommodation provided was well arranged in respect to position, and well occupied; and that the pure Gospel was preached in all those places. Now it was well known that this was not the true state of the case; and he believed that provision was still required for nearly a million of people. (Hear, hear.) Such a state of things surely required that Christian men of wealth should resolve to imitate the example of Mr. Wilson and others, and erect chapels at their own private cost; as well as the support, by the Christian church in general, of those societies which had been created for the express purpose of carrying on this work. Individual congregations, moreover, when they became too large for the chapel, would do well to adopt the course which had become quite common in America for a long time past. Instead of unduly crowding their place of worship, they called a meeting, and resolved upon plans for thirty or forty of their number "swarming" off to form the nucleus of a new cause. This had been done in some cases in England—at Kensington for example—with the most gratifying success; and it would be well that the method should become more generally adopted. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Alderman Wire then briefly addressed the meeting. Looking at what had been done, and what still remained to be accomplished, he would say to all the friends of the Gospel of the Congregational body, if you have not yet aided this society, become subscribers at once, and you will do much to diffuse throughout the land, not only your own distinctive principles—which are the principles of the Bible,—but those principles which are calculated to raise the nation in the scale of being, and to put England at the head of all the nations of the earth. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. C. Hine, of Sydenham, having made a few observations illustrative of the present cheering condition of things at his own chapel, and expressive of gratitude to the committee for the kindness which they had manifested towards both himself and the cause there, the Rev. Charles Gilbert closed the proceedings with the Benediction.

WATTON, NORFOLK.—The Rev. A. Griffin, pastor of the Independent church, Watton, Norfolk, purposes to resign his charge on the first Sabbath in April.

THE REV. H. F. RUSTEDT, of Thorna, has received a unanimous call to the pastorate of the Independent church in Sheffield of which the Rev. Samuel Dunn was formerly minister.

MAZE POND.—The statement given in our last number, which originally appeared in the *Freeman*, the new Baptist paper, that "the Rev. John Aldis has resigned the pastoral charge of the church in Maze Pond, Southwark," is stated, on the authority of one of the deacons, to be "wholly inaccurate."

THE REV. FRANKLIN HOWARTH, of Bury, Lancashire, who some time ago seceded from the Unitarians and established a Free Church, recently announced, in the Commercial Room of that town, his belief in the Trinity, the Atonement, and the efficacy of baptism by immersion.

BURNETT TREATISES.—We are informed that among the competitors for the late theological premiums were the following distinguished writers:—Rev. Dr. Croly, Rev. Dr. Harris, Rev. Dr. R. W. Hamilton, Rev. Dr. M'Neil, Rev. Dr. Dick, Rev. Dr. Orlington (since deceased), Rev. R. Montgomery, F. D. Maurice, R. C. Trench, J. A. James, Hugh Stowell, and T. Binney; Rev. Dr. Cumming, Mr. E. Miall, M.P., and Mr. Samuel Warren, F.R.S., and D.C.L. *Morning Chronicle*.—[We cannot tell where the *Chronicle* obtained its information, but so far at least as one of these names are concerned, that of Mr. Miall, the statement is altogether unfounded.]

Parliamentary Proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Episcopal, &c. Estates Bill, against 1.
Grain, for prohibiting distillation from 1.
Licences, against alteration of present system, 1.
Metropolitan Local Government, in favour of 1.
Newspaper Stamp, for repeal of 2.
Intoxicating Liquors, for prohibiting the sale of 1.
Stage Carriages (Metropolis), for abolition of mileage duties, 2.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Education Bill.
Mines (Ireland) Bill.
Schools (Scotland) Bill.

DEBATES.

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDNANCE ESTIMATE.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved that the House should resolve itself into committee of supply, for the purpose of voting a supplementary estimate on account of the Ordnance service. He acknowledged the propriety of postponing all public business until the new ministers could be present after their re-election; but pleaded that the supply now asked for was required for immediate exigencies, adding that the vote would be simply passed on account, and an early opportunity afforded to the House for discussing serious estimates for every department of the military and naval services.

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY thought the proceeding irregular, and suggested whether, under the circumstances, it was competent for the House to go into supply, and vote a large sum on account. He wished to know what was the meaning of these supplementary estimates, amounting for the navy and ordnance alone, to £3,340,000 outstanding liabilities.

Mr. MURPHY agreed that it was an irregular proceeding, and mentioned two items in the supplementary estimate as extremely objectionable—one, of £25,000, for a small manufactory, which, he said, was a waste of money and a job; the other, £15,000, for a building and machinery for small arms.

Sir O. WOOD said, it was not intended to bind any one by the vote, which was to meet the pressing demands of the public service. The proceeding was quite regular and in conformity with practice.

Mr. STAFFORD called the attention of the House to the state of the hospitals at Scutari, the deficiencies of which, according to a letter he had received, he said, instead of diminishing, increased. The daily deaths were, on an average, 40, and 500 sick arrived weekly. He urged that if some signal mark of approbation and confidence were not bestowed upon Dr. M'Grigor, much would be done to perpetuate the system of routine.

Mr. GLANVILLE stated that arrangements had been made, and were making, for supplying the deficiencies at the hospitals, and the Government would receive any communications upon the subject from Mr. Stafford with readiness and thankfulness. With regard to Dr. M'Grigor, the course taken by Mr. Stafford was neither more nor less than an individual member of Parliament taking into his hands the duty of the executive Government—a practice which would lead to injurious consequences.

Colonel KNEX referred to a letter he had received from the camp, which described the sickness as most dreadful. "We are losing," the writer stated, "1,000 a-week, and the strength of the British army is not more than 11,000 men."

Colonel DUNN did not believe that, of the 11,000 men, more than 2,000 were fit to go into action.

Sir W. MOWAT said, the statement that the army was losing 1,000 a-week was altogether incorrect. The Government were prepared to substantiate the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that, including all arms and all ranks, and reckoning the auxiliary naval force, the army in the Crimea amounted to 20,000 men, according to the last returns received by the Government.

The House then went into committee, and a vote of £1,200,000 on account of the Ordnance service, was agreed to, after a short discussion.

The House adjourned at 25 minutes before 2 o'clock.

MINISTERIAL EXPLANATIONS.

In the House of Lords on Thursday, Lord LYNDHURST informed the House that, under existing circumstances, he should not press the motion concerning the conduct of the war of which he had given notice.

The Marquis of CLAREMONT suggested that the incoming Government should be prepared to lay before the House at an early day a statement of the actual condition of the army before Sebastopol.

Earl GRANVILLE, as President of the Council, rose to move the adjournment of the House for a week. He stated that Lord Palmerston, after three days' exertions, had succeeded in fulfilling the commission entrusted to him by her Majesty for the construction of a Cabinet. The list of the new Ministry had that day been approved of by the Queen. After expressing his sense of the responsibility of the task which had been confided to him, as leader of the Government in their lordship's House, he went on to say that, so far as he could learn, no public man of any party had laid himself open to the charge of want of public spirit during the recent Ministerial complications. With respect to the new Administration, while it would neglect no opportunity of improving our internal affairs, in relation to which its principles would be identical with those of the last Administration, it was firmly determined to prosecute the war with vigour, and to bring it to a successful termination. With respect to the war, though the losses and sufferings of the army had been severe, he believed that there was no cause for despondency.

We do not like to allude in anticipation to any event, for the future is in the hands of Providence, but we

of burial fees—it is in fact the root of all the difficulties with which we have to deal, since the efforts of the episcopal and clerical body are directed to the enforcement of the alleged right of the clergy to continue to receive the fees hitherto paid them—a right, says the Bishop of London “as clear as their right to tithes.”

Now, it is a very instructive fact, that all burials were originally extra-mural, and this practice, Burn tells us, continued to the age of Gregory the Great, “when the monks and priests beginning to offer prayer for souls departed, procured leave, for their great ease and profit, that a liberty of sepulture might be in churches, or in places adjoining them.” The superstition has been given up, but this “mercenary reason”—I still quote Burn,—has prevailed to perpetuate intra-mural interments until now.

Sanitary reform has closed, or is closing, the churchyards, and now the vital point with the clergy is to prevent the fees following the dead to our suburban cemeteries. And notwithstanding the bitter lamentation of Bishop Bloomfield, they have been too successful in their efforts. Shareholders in certain joint-stock cemeteries in the metropolis will remember, if the public have forgotten, the disgraceful episcopal huckstering which preceded the passing of their acts; the bishop consenting to waive opposition in the House of Lords only on agreement to his terms—rising higher and higher in the case of each bill—that on every body buried in consecrated ground a poll-tax should be paid to the clergyman of the parish from which it had been brought!

The same end is gained in a modified degree by the acts under which new burial-grounds are now being provided all over the country. For, the consecrated portions of such grounds taking the place of the closed churchyards, “every incumbent for which such ground is provided, shall by himself, or his curate . . . perform the same duties, and have the same rights and authorities . . . in the burial of the remains of parishioners or inhabitants of the parish of which he is such incumbent, and shall be entitled to receive the same fees in respect of such burials which he has previously enjoyed and received,” (15 and 16 Vic., c. 85, s. 32). And the claims and rights of those humbler members of the parochial staff, the clerk and sexton, are similarly recognised.

The effect of this enactment is, that instead of the new burial boards having power to construct scales of clerical fees, a new sanction is given to the varying, absurd, and, in many instances, extortionate fees, heretofore levied in thousands of parishes—levied on the Hibernian principle laid down by Linwood,—“For burial ought not to be sold; but albeit the clergy may not demand anything for burials, yet the laity may be compelled to observe pious and laudable customs!”

Perhaps the uninitiated Dissenter will reply—“What is that to us, seeing that the clergy can claim these fees only for burials in the consecrated ground, and that we may therefore, if we choose, place ourselves beyond their reach?” Well, until within the last few months, it appeared to me that Dissenters might, if they wished, escape the clerical shears, by resorting to the unconsecrated ground, but facts brought to my knowledge by correspondence and by recent visits to the provinces, have satisfied me that, in the practical working of the system, Dissenters, though burying in unconsecrated ground, may still be heavily but unconsciously mulcted in the satisfaction of the demands of the parochial clergy.

The natural effect of high clerical fees in the consecrated portions of burial-grounds would be, to render interment there more expensive than elsewhere, and the operation of the free-trade principle would have the effect of multiplying interments in unblessed but less costly ground. Churchified burial boards being sharp enough to perceive this, how do they act? Why, in some cases at least, by charging the same fees in the unconsecrated as in the consecrated ground! Sometimes this is done “because it would never do to let all the business go into the unconsecrated ground”—sometimes because “it is not fair to make fish of one and flesh of another,” and sometimes—and let this reason be especially marked—because as the board loses on some of the interments in the consecrated side, from the largeness of the clerical fee, it must obtain the deficiency from the parties buried in the other section.

As an illustration, I have before me the table of fees of the Halesworth Burial Board. That board consists of five Churchmen and three Dissenters. It has built two chapels precisely alike, and separated the two portions of ground by a gravel walk only. It has also adopted the same table of fees for all parts of the ground. This looks well enough on the surface, but let the public learn how the fees are appropriated, and they will see the fiscal injustice which is inflicted under this smooth exterior.

The Dissenting minister who may officiate does not in any case have a fee of more than half a crown, while the incumbent receives fees ranging from that up to seven pounds! Yet a person cannot be buried in the unconsecrated ground in the highest class (“Tomb over vault of width of two coffins, with palisades”) without the payment of the same fees as on the other side; but then in that case the seven pounds go into the hands of the board, who give the Dissenting minister half a crown out of it!! This is the most flagrant case, but the same principle is acted upon all through the scale. Under the guise, therefore, of making Churchmen and Dissenters pay equally, this Board is fleecing the latter to enable them to meet the exorbitant claims of the ministers of the former!

Sir, I trust that this piece of information will suffice to induce Dissenters to watch the new burial boards with redoubled vigilance, and where such boards are about to be appointed, that they will regard the con-

stitution of them on an impartial basis as a matter of most urgent importance.

What has been effected at Torrington and at Lindfield, shows that the feeling of the public is so much on our side, that, even in rural parishes, Dissent, weak in itself, but strong in the justice of its principles, may, by the manifestation of firmness, secure almost all that, in this matter, it is possible at present to secure. At Torrington the board will, it is hoped, before long open the unconsecrated part of their ground, leaving Churchmen to shift for themselves, and, in the meantime, they have agreed to petition Parliament to effect an alteration in the law. At Lindfield, where a persevering opposition has destroyed Church-rates, the Dissenting minister is chairman of the board, the ground has been laid out, and the chapels built much after the fashion of those at Torrington, and in respect to fees and other matters, mutually satisfactory arrangements have, I am told, been made.

As Mr. Pellatt proposes that the whole subject of interments, as affected by recent legislation, should be investigated by a Committee of the House of Commons, it is very desirable that information should be elicited from all quarters, and that those who can furnish illustrations of the working of a bad system, may, by a prompt communication of their knowledge, assist in its destruction or modification.

Your obedient servant,

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS.

2, Serjeant's-inn, Fleet-street, Feb. 13th.

CONVOCATION.

The two Houses of Convocation met again on Thursday. In the Upper House, the Archbishop of Canterbury read a report on the change required in the present constitution of Convocation. The principal changes are, that there shall be a proctor for every archdeaconry elected by the clergy; and that all beneficed clergy, curates, and chaplains in priests' orders, and licensed by the bishop, shall have a vote. The remainder of the report relates to the mode of doing business in both Houses, founded on precedents. With respect to the vexed questions as to the right of the president of the Upper House to refuse to submit propositions to the Upper House, and as to his power of proroguing Convocation against the wishes of his brethren, as the precedents are not decisive, the report suggests that it would be expedient that he should not be at liberty to refuse to submit propositions; and that while he possesses the power of prorogation, he should, in ordinary prorogations, act with the consent of his brethren. This report was received; but, on the motion of the Bishop of Oxford, the House resolved that it was not expedient to address her Majesty as to any alterations in the constitution.

The Lower House was occupied with the consideration of the resolutions on Church services sent down from the Upper House; respecting which there was great difference of opinion; and strong expressions from Dr. McCaul, Archdeacon Denison, and others, against touching the Prayer Book. At last, a modification of the resolutions sent down by the Upper House was adopted, on the motion of Archdeacon Grant. A committee was appointed, and the House adjourned.

On Friday the meetings were resumed. The Upper House had nothing to do, and only met to enable the Lower House to consider a report of a Joint Committee upon the Clergy Discipline Act. There was a hurried discussion of its recommendations; and, finding that there was not time to deliberate, the House recorded the fact in a resolution, and prayed for a further opportunity. On the motion of the Reverend Mr. Woodgate, it was resolved that it was not expedient to admit laymen to Convocation until the Church can enforce ecclesiastical discipline. The Upper House disagreed with the amendments in their resolutions respecting Church services.

PRAYER AND INTERCESSION.

The following circular has been issued by the Bishop of London:—

London-house, Feb. 5.

Rev. and dear Sir,—It appears to me desirable that the clergy should appoint a particular day during the season of Lent, on which the minds of their congregations may be more especially directed to the offering up to Almighty God of united prayer and intercession for the safety and success of their brethren now serving in our armies and fleets, and for the restoration of peace. I would suggest the third Sunday in Lent for this purpose.

The clergy are not at liberty to depart from the prescribed Order of Common Prayer; but they may, by previous notice, direct the thoughts of their parishioners to this special object.

I am, Rev. and dear Sir, your affectionate friend and servant,

C. J. LONDON.

In reference to this circular a correspondent of the *Daily News* remarks:—The same sort of rigid adherence to form and routine which marks the administration of military affairs in the Crimea, and leads consequently to the most disastrous results, characterises the administration of church matters. At this peculiarly important time, one would think that even bishops would divest themselves of their musty fondness for rubric and liturgy, and strike off a bold, simple, and warm-hearted appeal to their clergy. But no! Charles James of London, albeit the very existence of Great Britain is trembling in the balance, and the country knows not the misery which may be born to it to-morrow, suggests that the season of Lent only is favourable for an act of national prayer and intercession. We must wait, therefore, until the 11th of March (the 3rd Sunday in Lent) before this act of humiliation is performed. As with the War Minister's Department, so with the Church—the instructions of the latter lag behind the necessities of the crisis!

THE PUSEYITE STRUGGLE IN PIMLICO. — On

Sunday morning there was publicly posted on the doors of St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, a monition from the Bishop of London, addressed to the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Liddell, the incumbent of the church, at the instance of Mr. Charles Westerton, the churchwarden, directing that the high altar in that church shall be removed, and a decent communion-table substituted.

THE REV. DR. MOLESWORTH, of ROCHDALE, has “not sanctioned” the branch of the Young Men's Christian Association planted in his parish, “nor was his concurrence asked in regard to a meeting” held in its behalf; yet the Rev. Canon Stowell takes part in the meeting, and the Bishop of Manchester, appealed to by the Doctor, says “he has no authority to interfere in the matter.”

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.—STAINLAND, NEAR HALIFAX. — On Tuesday evening, February 6th, a public meeting was held in the new school-room, when the Rev. W. Walters, of Halifax, and Mr. W. Hickman Smith, of London, attended as a deputation. The chair was occupied by E. Walker, Esq.; and the Rev. R. S. Ball, Mr. Mellor, and other gentlemen, took part in the proceedings. There were about 250 persons present, and much interest was excited by the statement of the society's recent operations. A spirited canvass has been commenced; and several influential gentlemen have identified themselves with the society.

CATHEDRAL AND COLLEGIATE CHURCHES.—A return moved for by Mr. Ewart, M.P., just published, shows that the gross total payments made to the English Ecclesiastical Commission since the 21st of April, 1853, on account of any suspended stalls in the cathedral and collegiate churches of England and Wales, amounted to £80,103, of which sum the following are the items—viz., from 8 suspended canopies of St. Asaph, £720; from 2 suspended canopies of Bristol, £3,917; from 6 of the same belonging to Canterbury, £15,119; from 1 of St. David's, £521; from 3 of Durham, £14,765; from 2 of Ely, £720; from 2 of Exeter, £5,346; from 2 of Gloucester, £2,684; from 1 of Hereford, £1,067; from 6 of Llandaff, £1,745; from 2 of Norwich, £1,671; from 2 of Peterborough, £808; from 1 of Rochester, £1,198; from 2 of Salisbury, £444; from 2 of Wells, £1,472; from 4 of Westminster, £13,769; from 6 of Winchester, £8,576; from 6 of Windsor, £4,207; and from 6 of Worcester, £3,346.

Religious Intelligence.

LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL-BUILDING SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the friends and supporters of this society was held last Wednesday evening at the Congregational Library, Bloomfield-street, Eusebius Smith, Esq., Treasurer of the Society, presiding. The Rev. William Leask having commenced the proceedings with prayer,

The Chairman strongly advocated the claims of the society to public support. Wherever there was a chapel built, a congregation collected, and a church formed, an immediate influence for good must of necessity arise, and spread through all the surrounding neighbourhood. They ought never to forget that where a sanctuary was reared and a congregation gathered, efforts will sure to be put forth for the establishment of schools, the Christian visitation of the poor, and all those other means of usefulness employed which were best calculated to meet the wants of the population of the district. It would be found, therefore, in practice, impossible to devise any one means to accomplish the object which their friends had in view in the conferences recently held in that room, more directly and effectually than by endeavouring to advance the interests of that society. (Hear, hear.) The proceedings of the society for the past year, he was happy to say, had been neither less important nor more circumscribed than during that immediately preceding. The society had completed the erection of two additional large places of worship, the one at Craven-hill, Bayswater, near Westbourne-terrace, and the other at Blackheath. This latter chapel, with only one gallery, accommodated 800 persons, and it was already full; and, indeed, the congregation was seriously contemplating the addition of side galleries. (Cheers.) And if they had not the same amount of success to report concerning the other, no one need be surprised; for they certainly did not expect that, in every case, success could be so rapid and decisive. It could not be denied that this kind of labour would sometimes tax the faith and patience of those engaged in it. If, in all cases, they required to be stimulated with immediate success on a commanding scale, they must very speedily give up the work altogether. But then they had proofs in abundance, that if such faith and patience be exercised at the outset, there was nothing to fear. (Hear, hear.) After adverting in detail to the success which had followed their labours in various directions, he said that great things had been done by their friends in Lancashire, and their friends and brethren who are conducting the English Chapel Building Society have accomplished a large amount of good in the various counties of England; and it may be said, he thought, that their existence was probably due to us of the London society. (Hear, hear.) There was one fact in connexion with their history which ought never to be forgotten: they had never had one case of failure to record. (Cheers.) A letter had been received by the committee from the Rev. Dr. Harris, who regretted his inability to be present. There was just one sentence in his communication to which he would invite their special attention. He says:—“Societies for wider objects exist, but yours is a root society, which, if it be duly nourished and sustained, tends to supply sap and life to them all.” (Cheers.)

* It should be known that the Minute and other books of the board are open to inspection.

The Rev. Charles Gilbert proceeded to read the report, prefacing it with the statement that it was the composition of his late colleague in the Secretariat, —the Rev. Thomas Davies. The following is a summary:—

At the last annual meeting, the committee was engaged in the erection of large chapels at Bayswater and Blackheath. Both have been completed in the past year.

CRAYEN-HILL CHAPEL, BAYSWATER, was opened May 2nd, 1854. It affords sittings for about 1,100 persons; and has appended to it, vestries and spacious school-rooms. The cost of the entire structure is a little more than £5,000.

BLACKHEATH CHAPEL was opened on Tuesday, July 19th, 1854. Though the chapel has been erected by the society, its cost is to be defrayed by the friends at Blackheath, with the exception of £500 granted by this society. It affords accommodation for about 800 persons, with provision for the erection of side galleries to seat about 300 more. Before the chapel was opened, the Rev. James Sherman accepted an invitation to become its minister. The result is, that the chapel is already filled to overflowing, and the erection of side galleries is now under consideration.

BATTLE-BRIDGE CHAPEL.—The Rev. Thomas Seavill has, for some years, been engaged in efforts for the spiritual welfare of the working-classes at Somers'-town and Battle-bridge. During the past two years he has devoted his energies to the erection of a chapel in the latter district. Towards this erection the committee has promised a grant of £600. In December last the chapel was opened. It is a handsome and commodious building, with extensive school and class-rooms, and the site is freehold.

PARK CHAPEL, SYDENHAM, was purchased and reopened by the committee in the year 1853. Its progress during the past year has afforded an ample reward for the labours and outlay which have been devoted to it. In connexion with the ministry of the Rev. C. Hine, the chapel is now well filled. The congregation have taken upon themselves the pecuniary liabilities of the place; and already more than £1,000 has been paid in diminution of the debt, in aid of which effort the committee voted £420.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD CHAPEL.—The committee rejoice to observe the settlement of the Rev. Watson Smith as the minister of this place of worship, and have paid the moiety of their promised grant of £500.

Several new enterprises have been undertaken during the past year.

BATTERSEA.—The committee have purchased a freehold chapel and premises, lately in the occupation of a small body of Wesleyans. A fine field will thus be opened for the preaching of the Gospel, and the establishment of a Congregational church in that locality.

CANONBURY CHAPEL.—Towards the close of the year 1853, the committee secured a very valuable freehold site in the district of Canonbury, at a cost, including the making of sewers, of £1,134. During the year they have been engaged in making preparations for the erection of the chapel. A local committee has been formed, and many subscriptions for the object have been obtained. An architectural design, which promises peculiar advantages, has been selected. The entire cost of the structure, exclusive of architect's fees, is not to exceed £3,500; and the erection will commence as soon as the local subscriptions amount to £1,500. Towards this sum £825 and three congregational collections are promised.

NUNHEAD, PECKHAM RYE.—More than two years ago the committee secured a valuable freehold site in this district, at the moderate sum of £215. They will proceed to the erection as soon as £500 shall be raised in the locality. Towards this sum £320 have already been promised.

NEW CROSS.—The want of a suitable chapel in this neighbourhood has been pressingly felt by the Rev. D. Nimmo and his friends, and they are engaged in efforts for securing that object. The committee have promised £300 in aid of the enterprise.

SHOREDITCH.—Repeated efforts have been made by the committee to do something for the evangelisation of this neighbourhood, but hitherto without success. Plans, however, are now under consideration, which it is hoped will speedily result in some active and permanent operations.

TRUST DEED.—The committee have much satisfaction in reporting, that their labours in the preparation of a Model Trust Deed have come to a conclusion. The Deed, in its complete form, was printed in the spring of last year. The committee have endeavoured so to construct it, as to provide, in the most effectual manner, for the security and proper application of the property, the freedom of the churches, the purity of the pulpit, and the permanence of evangelical truth. They rejoice to learn that the result of their labours has met with general approval, and they trust that it will be rendered extensively useful. Persons concerned in providing trust deeds for chapels may obtain copies of the Deed upon payment of 2s. 6d., by applying to the publisher, Mr. Unwin, of Bucklersbury.

FINANCE AND CONTRIBUTIONS.—While the blessing of God has been vouchsafed to the operations of the society, its contributions have been less ample than might have been justly expected. Seeing the extending field for their operations, and feeling the inadequacy of their income, the committee made arrangements for a meeting of ministers and other gentlemen for conference, as to the best means of increasing the resources of the society. It was held at Radley's Hotel. The results of the meeting have been most satisfactory. The chairman, J. R. Mills, Esq., made the munificent proposal to give £1,000 to the society provided other £5,000 should be obtained. Another gentleman, with equal liberality, promised a second thousand towards the proposed amount. Other friends have followed these excellent examples with smaller, but still generous contributions: and the committee have now the satisfaction to report that about £4,000 have already been either paid or promised toward the required £5,000. A source of contributions to which special importance is attached, consists in congregational collections. The number of these during the past year have been but nine. The ensuing year, in this respect, shows brighter prospects; several promises from pastors and deacons have been already received. The committee respectfully but urgently request the attention of the pastors and deacons of all the London churches to the objects and claims of this society. Surely it is not too much to ask that they would give it a place in their list of collections, at least, once in two years.

SECRETARIAT.—The Rev. Thomas Davies, one of the

Secretaries, having received an invitation to undertake the pastorate of the church assembling in Cannon-street Chapel, Preston, Lancashire, has been consequently under the necessity of resigning his connexion with this society. It was considered by the committee whether one secretary would not be sufficient to conduct the business of the institution; but, after a deliberate consideration of the subject, they have come to the conclusion, that the numerous and varied duties arising out of its extended operations cannot be efficiently discharged without at least as much time and energy as have been heretofore so cheerfully rendered by their two friends who have sustained that office. In accordance with this decision they have the pleasure to announce that they have made arrangements with the Rev. J. Bramall to undertake that portion of the secretariat duties which Mr. Davies formerly fulfilled. They also take this opportunity to announce, that the offices of the society will be removed from the Congregational Library to No. 7, Bloomfield-street, adjoining the Mission-house.

The balance-sheet, which was read by the Treasurer, showed an income, from all sources, of £10,150 9s. 7d., a sum considerably in advance of that reported the previous year; and an expenditure of £3,351, with £389 8s. for management; and he ventured to say, that there was not another society in existence which conducted so large an amount of business at so small a cost. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. James Spence, M.A., of the Poultry Chapel, then delivered an address on "The Imperative Duty of the Disciples of Christ to Provide Chapel Accommodation for the Destitute Portion of the Population around them."

The Rev. George Smith next addressed the meeting on the following topic: "The Encouragement to this duty arising out of the Success of Past Effort."

The Rev. J. C. Galloway, Secretary of the English Congregational Chapel Building Society, was next called upon to address the meeting. The statistical statement which had been made by one of the speakers, in reference to the destitution of London, he might be allowed to observe, did not fully represent the facts of the case. The statement that 700,000 of the population existed for whom no provision had been made, was put forth as the full statement of the evil; but, if so, they must suppose that all the other accommodation provided was well arranged in respect to position, and well occupied; and that the pure Gospel was preached in all those places. Now it was well known that this was not the true state of the case; and he believed that provision was still required for nearly a million of people. (Hear, hear.) Such a state of things surely required that Christian men of wealth should resolve to imitate the example of Mr. Wilson and others, and erect chapels at their own private cost; as well as the support, by the Christian church in general, of those societies which had been created for the express purpose of carrying on this work. Individual congregations, moreover, when they became too large for the chapel, would do well to adopt the course which had become quite common in America for a long time past. Instead of unduly crowding their place of worship, they called a meeting, and resolved upon plans for thirty or forty of their number "swarming" off to form the nucleus of a new cause. This had been done in some cases in England—at Kensington for example—with the most gratifying success; and it would be well that the method should become more generally adopted. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Alderman Wire then briefly addressed the meeting. Looking at what had been done, and what still remained to be accomplished, he would say to all the friends of the Gospel of the Congregational body, if you have not yet aided this society, become subscribers at once, and you will do much to diffuse throughout the land, not only your own distinctive principles—which are the principles of the Bible,—but those principles which are calculated to raise the nation in the scale of being, and to put England at the head of all the nations of the earth. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. C. Hine, of Sydenham, having made a few observations illustrative of the present cheering condition of things at his own chapel, and expressive of gratitude to the committee for the kindness which they had manifested towards both himself and the cause there, the Rev. Charles Gilbert closed the proceedings with the Benediction.

WATTON, NORFOLK.—The Rev. A. Griffin, pastor of the Independent church, Watton, Norfolk, purposes to resign his charge on the first Sabbath in April.

THE REV. H. F. RUSTED, of Thorne, has received a unanimous call to the pastorate of the Independent church in Sheffield of which the Rev. Samuel Dunn was formerly minister.

MAZE POND.—The statement given in our last number, which originally appeared in the *Freeman*, the new Baptist paper, that "the Rev. John Aldis has resigned the pastoral charge of the church in Maze Pond, Southwark," is stated, on the authority of one of the deacons, to be "wholly inaccurate."

THE REV. FRANKLIN HOWARTH, of Bury, Lancashire, who some time ago seceded from the Unitarians and established a Free Church, recently announced, in the Commercial Room of that town, his belief in the Trinity, the Atonement, and the efficacy of baptism by immersion.

BURNETT TREATISES.—We are informed that among the competitors for the late theological premiums were the following distinguished writers:—Rev. Dr. Croly, Rev. Dr. Harris, Rev. Dr. R. W. Hamilton, Rev. Dr. McNeil, Rev. Dr. Dick, Rev. Dr. Fridon (since deceased), Rev. R. Montgomery, F. D. Maurice, R. C. Trench, J. A. James, Hugh Stowell, and T. Binney; Rev. Dr. Cumming, Mr. E. Miall, M.P., and Mr. Samuel Warren, F.R.S., and D.C.L.—*Morning Chronicle*.—[We cannot tell where the *Chronicle* obtained its information, but so far at least as one of these names are concerned, that of Mr. Miall, the statement is altogether unfounded.]

Parliamentary Proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Episcopal, &c., Estates Bill, against, 1.
Grain, for prohibiting distillation from, 1.
Licenses, against alteration of present system, 1.
Metropolitan Local Government, in favour of, 1.
Newspaper Stamp, for repeal of, 2.
Intoxicating Liquors, for prohibiting the sale of, 1.
Stage Carriages (Metropolis), for abolition of mileage duties, 2.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Education Bill.
Mines (Ireland) Bill.
Schools (Scotland) Bill.

DEBATES.

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDINANCE ESTIMATES.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved that the House should resolve itself into committee of supply, for the purpose of voting a supplementary estimate on account of the Ordinance service. He acknowledged the propriety of postponing all public business until the new ministers could be present after their re-election; but pleaded that the supply now asked for was required for immediate exigencies, adding that the vote would be simply passed on account, and an early opportunity afforded to the House for discussing seriatim the estimates for every department of the military and naval services.

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY thought the proceeding irregular, and suggested whether, under the circumstances, it was competent for the House to go into supply, and vote a large sum on account. He wished to know what was the meaning of those supplementary estimates, amounting for the navy and ordnance alone, to £3,340,000 outstanding liabilities.

Mr. MUNTS agreed that it was an irregular proceeding, and mentioned two items in the supplementary estimate as extremely objectionable—one, of £26,000, for a shell manufactory, which, he said, was a waste of money and a job; the other, £15,000, for a building and machinery for small arms.

Sir C. WOOD said, it was not intended to bind any one by the vote, which was to meet the pressing demands of the public service. The proceeding was quite regular and in conformity with practice.

Mr. STAFFORD called the attention of the House to the state of the hospitals at Scutari, the deficiencies of which, according to a letter he had received, he said, instead of diminishing, increased. The daily deaths were, on an average, 40, and 500 sick arrived weakly. He urged that if some signal mark of approbation and confidence were not bestowed upon Dr. McGrigor, much would be done to perpetuate the system of routine.

Mr. GLADSTONE stated that arrangements had been made, and were making, for supplying the deficiencies at the hospitals, and the Government would receive any communications upon the subject from Mr. Stafford with readiness and thankfulness. With regard to Dr. McGrigor, the course taken by Mr. Stafford was neither more nor less than an individual member of Parliament taking into his hands the duty of the executive Government—a practice which would lead to injurious consequences.

Colonel KNOX referred to a letter he had received from the camp, which described the sickness as most dreadful. "We are losing," the writer stated, "1,000 a-week, and the strength of the British army is not more than 11,000 men."

Colonel DUNNE did not believe that, of the 11,000 men, more than 2,000 were fit to go into action.

Sir W. MOLESWORTH said, the statement that the army was losing 1,000 a-week was altogether incorrect. The Government were prepared to substantiate the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that, including all arms and all ranks, and reckoning the auxiliary naval force, the army in the Crimea amounted to 30,000 men, according to the last returns received by the Government.

The House then went into committee, and a vote of £1,200,000 on account of the Ordinance service, was agreed to, after a short discussion.

The House adjourned at 25 minutes before 2 o'clock.

MINISTERIAL EXPLANATIONS.

In the House of Lords on Thursday, Lord LYNCHBURGH informed the House that, under existing circumstances, he should not press the motion concerning the conduct of the war of which he had given notice.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE suggested that the incoming Government should be prepared to lay before the House at an early day a statement of the actual condition of the army before Sebastopol.

Earl GRANVILLE, as President of the Council, rose to move the adjournment of the House for a week. He stated that Lord Palmerston, after three days' exertions, had succeeded in fulfilling the commission entrusted to him by her Majesty for the construction of a Cabinet. The list of the new Ministry had that day been approved of by the Queen. After expressing his sense of the responsibility of the task which had been confided to him, as leader of the Government in their lordship's House, he went on to say that, so far as he could learn, no public man of any party had laid himself open to the charge of want of public spirit during the recent Ministerial complications. With respect to the new Administration, while it would neglect no opportunity of improving our internal affairs, in relation to which its principles would be identical with those of the last Administration, it was firmly determined to prosecute the war with vigour, and to bring it to a successful termination. With respect to the war, though the losses and sufferings of the army had been severe, he believed that there was no cause for despondency.

We do not like to allude in anticipation to any event, for the future is in the hands of Providence, but we

derive some hope and comfort from the knowledge that the resources of this country are almost unlimited. (Hear, hear.) We are now at the very beginning of those resources, and the spirit evinced by the country will enable us to draw upon them so long as the necessity exists, and so long as they are properly and efficiently administered. (Hear, hear.) We derive also confidence from the fact that, in spite of the disasters to which I have alluded, we have yet achieved more than this country ever achieved before in any great continental war during an equal period. We rely with confidence that, with the direction of our foreign affairs remaining in the hands of my noble friend (the Earl of Clarendon), France will continue with this country those intimate and cordial relations which have been maintained, so much to the advantage of both nations, up to the present moment (hear, hear); and we believe that the same friendly feeling will exist on the part of Austria, on account of our relations with her. (Hear, hear.) It is with these views, and benefitting by the lessons which experience has taught us, and which, I must say, experience alone could have taught us, that Lord Palmerston and his colleagues mean to take every measure in their power to carry on the present war with all possible vigour and energy until that day, and not one day later, when a just and honourable peace, comprehending both the interests of Europe and the honour of this country, shall be attained. (Cheers.) With these sentiments we appeal to your lordships and the country for support; and it is with these sentiments that we can accept with thankfulness such support as the noble and learned lord opposite has offered us to-night. (Cheers.)

The Earl of DERBY then explained to the House the part which he had taken during the Ministerial interregnum. Though he might have felt justified, when honoured by her Majesty with her commands, in attempting to form an Administration out of the great Conservative party, he had come to the conclusion, that out of the unassisted strength of that party he could not have brought together so strong a Government as the exigencies of the country demanded. In referring to the recent defeat of the Government—without a parallel, he believed, in the history of this country—he noticed that the majority on that occasion, singularly enough, happened to be, in point of numbers, to a unit the same with the majority by which, two years ago, the Government of which he was the head was ejected from office—viz., a majority 305—though on the former occasion it was 305 to 286, while on the present it is 305 to 148. (Hear, hear.) Of these 300, he believed that the great Conservative party, who have acted together for a considerable period with perfect and uninterrupted union, constituted something like 200. (Hear, hear.) He was scarcely surprised, therefore, to receive Her Majesty's commands to endeavour to form a new Ministry. Of course he had carefully and anxiously reviewed his position and means of forming a strong Government—especially how he should stand with regard to Parliamentary support. He believed that in carrying out the important functions of the Ministry of War, he should have had the support of a noble friend of mine, not a military man, but possessed of a mind eminently military, who had proved himself to be an able and successful Minister of War on an extended scale (hear, hear);—a noble earl whose energy, whose ability, and whose eloquence, would have given ample assurance to the country of the efficiency of the manner in which he would have performed his duties (hear, hear), and who, if he had one characteristic that was more universally recognised than another, it was that in him the country would have a guarantee that in no possible circumstances would they hear of jobbery or corruption. (Cheers.) He believed also he should have received the support and assistance, the unrivalled eloquence and commanding talents, of Sir E. Bulwer Lytton. (Cheers.) But he was bound to look at a more vulgar, if not more important circumstance, viz., the numerical strength of the Government. Though honoured with the support of about 300 members of the House of Commons he could not forget that his last administration had been overturned by this same House, and that such another combination might occur at any moment, notwithstanding that a new Government would come into office under peculiar circumstances. Somehow or other, public feeling seemed to point to Lord Palmerston as the man fitted for the present crisis. With that feeling prevailing in Parliament—with a general declaration in favour of a distinguished member of that House—a declaration made by a large portion of the press, and by a considerable amount of the members of the House of Commons, and sustained by the high authority of Lord John Russell,—he would ask what prospect of immunity from attack, or what prospect of a sustained majority, a Government could in such circumstances expect? (Hear, hear.) There were many circumstances, personal and political, which made Lord Palmerston's position, at the present time, advantageous to any Administration, and feeling that he (Lord Derby) could not form a really strong Government without extraneous aid, he had come to the conclusion that to effect that object, it was desirable to put himself in communication with the noble viscount. He accordingly called upon him at his residence:—

I found, as I anticipated, that the noble Viscount would have been exceedingly unwilling—nay, indeed, that he felt it would have been impossible, without the concurrence and co-operation of some of his friends, to give to me that assistance and support which otherwise he did not express himself disinclined to afford. I stated at once that I had anticipated that feeling on his part, and that it was perfectly natural. I named to the noble viscount the two men with whom I conceived he would be most desirous of acting, and who might have the least difficulty, from their antecedents, in connecting themselves again with the Conservative party. I found—for the noble viscount was good enough to state to me—that, with regard to my personal considerations, he could have no objection to act in a Government with which I was connected, and he accompanied these obliging expressions towards me with an allusion to the long acquaintance and friendship which had subsisted between us. We went on

so far as to discuss the particular position in the Government in which the noble viscount should be placed, and I stated to him that I did not think it was possible for any Minister to combine with the lead of the House of Commons the duties of an extensive and laborious department, and I obtained from him his concurrence in that opinion—that, with the lead of the House of Commons, the arduous and important duties of Minister for War were wholly incompatible. I was enabled, by an act of self-abnegation and forbearance for which I think my right hon. friend deserves the highest credit, to state, upon the part of my right hon. friend Mr. Disraeli, that, with regard to the lead of the House of Commons, with which he had been honoured upon a former occasion, in the presence of the noble viscount, he would waive all claim and pretension to that position, and would willingly and readily act under the direction of a statesman of the noble viscount's ability and experience (hear, and cheers), and my right hon. friend added, what I think is hardly less to his credit, that, not only was he willing and ready to waive a right to which—considering his relationship with the Conservative party—he was fairly entitled, in favour of the noble viscount, but that he hoped such a surrender might render more easy the accession of two of the friends of the noble viscount, who might be willing to act under the noble viscount, though they might be less willing to act under my right hon. friend. (Hear, hear, and renewed cheers.) I quitted the noble viscount after about half an hour's interview. Her Majesty, waiting the result of that interview, made her return to Windsor, and I informed the noble viscount that her Majesty would leave a messenger in waiting to receive, at the earliest possible time, the result of the communication which he undertook to make to Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Sidney Herbert.

I left the noble viscount shortly before 2 o'clock, and at half-past 9, just as I had written to the noble viscount that it was impossible for me longer to detain the messenger if he was to arrive at Windsor that night, I received with considerable surprise a note from the noble viscount, merely stating that, upon full and complete reflection, he had come to the conclusion that if he were to join my Government he could not give to it that support which I was good enough to think his presence would insure,—that he had communicated with Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Sidney Herbert, according to my desire, but that they would write answers to me, and he thought it better that they should do so. At half-past 12 that night I received a note from Mr. Gladstone, and between 7 and 8 the following morning I received one from Mr. Sidney Herbert, both written in kind and courteous terms—terms of which I could certainly have no reason whatever to complain; but I certainly was struck with this expression in Mr. Gladstone's note, after stating that Lord Palmerston had communicated to him the wish I had expressed that he should form part of the Administration,—“I also learned from him (Lord Palmerston) that he is not of opinion that he can himself render you useful service in that Administration.”

Under the circumstances, therefore, he felt it his duty to decline the task of forming a new Administration; but he assured her Majesty that, in the event of no further combination being able to be made, he was then ready to offer to her Majesty his humble and devoted services. Why, it might be asked, after Lord Palmerston's refusal, did he not seek assistance in other quarters? There was Lord Clarendon, of whose ability, industry, and zeal, he entertained the highest opinion, and with whom he was on terms of mutual regard and esteem. But considering the noble lord's political connexions, he (the Earl of Derby) did not feel justified in making any direct overtures to him, unless under her Majesty's express injunction. He now almost doubted whether it would not have been better to have communicated either with the Earl of Clarendon or the Marquis of Lansdowne. Though his conduct might have disappointed some of his more sanguine supporters, he was convinced that the great Conservative party should not rashly or prematurely accept office at the present portentous crisis. The noble earl concluded by saying:—

I will only add further, with reference to what has fallen from the noble earl at the head of the present Government in this House, that there will be a deep responsibility attaching to any Minister who shall conclude a peace, however earnestly called for, which does not secure to this country and to Europe these great results. A responsibility at least as deep, if not still deeper, will attach to him who, after such results shall have been obtained, shall continue for a single moment the miseries and horrors of an unnecessary war. (Loud cheers.)

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE followed with a detail of his own proceedings during the late Ministerial crisis, explaining the constitutional principles which rendered it fitting for the Queen to send in succession for Lord Derby, Lord John Russell, and Lord Palmerston to persevere in forming an Administration, believing that any longer interregnum of Government would be prejudicial to the country, and impair its dignity in the eyes of Europe. Nor was it in Parliament alone that such support was needed. In this crisis every one in the country had a duty to fulfil:—

In a great measure we must, undoubtedly, depend for the issue of the great cause in which we are engaged with one of the greatest and the most powerful empires in the world upon the courage of our soldiers, the courage of our seamen, and the ability of our commanders. But be it remembered that it is not they alone who are actively engaged in the contest—that the contest is one of representative Government against despotism (cheers), and that if we are not enabled to oppose to the energy of that despotism those peculiar powers which a representative Government contains, or ought to contain, we shall fail in that contest. (Hear, and cheers.) If we do not procure that unanimity by patriotism, by argument, and by similarity of opinion which despotism is able at all times and in all periods to command, despotism will be too powerful for liberty, and the moral to be learnt from the transactions of these times will be the feebleness and the vices of a free and representative Government. (Cheers.) The only mode by which that can be prevented—the only mode by which a different view can be presented to the eyes of the world of the character of the constitution of this country, is by the united effort of every man in it; and it is the duty, not only of members of this House, but only of members in the other House of Parliament, but

also of persons exercising influence out of it—of those very eminent and distinguished persons by their talents who are connected with one of the noblest institutions of this country—the free press of this country—it is the duty of these individuals, and it is the duty of all persons who by any accident of position or talent command the confidence and the approbation of the different circles, great or small, in which they live—it is the duty of all these, by every act, word, and deed, at this moment, to take care that they say nothing, that they do nothing, that they write nothing that can have the effect of impairing the national strength, or of interrupting the action of the national cause in the great contest in which it is engaged. (Cheers.)

The Earl of MALMESBURY, after congratulating the House on the termination of the crisis, proceeded to remark upon the organisation of the army, and the changes that were proposed in the military departments. At some length, he replied to certain articles in the *Times* which attributed to the army too great a preponderance of the aristocratic element, and went into details to prove that the aristocracy was not more than adequately represented among regimental officers.

Lord PANMURE assured the House that he had accepted the office of War Minister with much reluctance, and only upon an intimation that his experience might be of service to the country. Admitting the necessity of large reforms in his department, he confessed that he was not at that moment prepared to indicate their character, or even to discuss the question.

But there is one qualification which I trust I shall bring into the administration of the affairs of my department, and that is that, in the direction of military affairs, I will endeavour so to discharge my duty that no one shall be employed under my administration whom I do not consider to be fitting to be recommended for employment. My lords, if, in the direction of the War Department, I should at any time be called upon to do an act which, although painful to myself, may be necessary for the good of the country, I trust that I shall be able to perform that act in a proper manner, and that I shall always be ready to do what I am aware is for my country's good, even at the sacrifice of my own personal feelings. My lords, I will not on the present occasion trouble your lordships further than by again saying that it shall be my endeavour to do always that which I may think necessary for placing the military affairs of the country on a proper footing, and that as speedily as I can. I trust that too much may not be expected. I may bring to the duties of my office six years' practical experience of the administration of military affairs under another Government, and for twelve years I served—a circumstance I always remember with pride—in the regimental service of the army. I can bear willing testimony to the eulogium passed by the noble earl upon the British army, and I take this opportunity to say that, whatever defects may exist in other respects in the organization of the army, I believe our regimental system is better than that of any other country on the face of the earth. (Cheers.) With regard to that system, I believe it is based on a good foundation, and that as carried on it is almost perfect. I hope that I may not be out of place if I crave from those out of doors that forbearance which is so necessary to one taking a position of so much responsibility as that which I have assumed. My lords, I can only say that, should I find myself unequal to the task which I have undertaken, I will at once honestly confess it, and surrender unto abler and better hands the important charge, which by detaining in my own I might inflict great injury upon the public service. (Hear, hear.)

After a few remarks from Lord RODEN the subject dropped, and their lordships adjourned at a quarter to eight o'clock.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES—OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

On Thursday, on the motion for going into committee of supply, Mr. RICH challenged the Chancellor of the Exchequer to substantiate the statement he had advanced on a former occasion, to the effect that the number of troops remaining fit for active service in the Crimea, at the date of the last report, exceeded 28,000.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained that this assertion had been based upon official documents furnished by the war departments, but which he would not lay before the House without leave. Mr. Gladstone proceeded to remark upon the state of public business, and suggested, that pending the inevitable absence of the Prime Minister, the House, after a formal meeting this day, should adjourn to Friday next, when Lord Palmerston would probably be able to take his seat on re-election. [In reference to a motion for the production of papers, on Friday the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that prudential reasons forbade the publication of the official returns on the subject, but the papers would be accessible to any member for his private satisfaction.]

In Committee of Supply, the House voted the sum of £1,615,600 on account of a navy estimate, in excess of expenditure for 1864-65.

The report of the Committee of Supply having been brought up, Mr. W. WILLIAMS inveighed against the gross mismanagement and waste of money in the departments of administration in the Crimea, whereby he considered that the nation was lowered and disgraced. The report was agreed to.

Colonel SIBTHORP denounced the continual delays which were interposed to any serious discussion respecting the state of our army in the Crimea.

Mr. BUTT remarked upon the singular confiction of evidence as to the actual number of troops left fit for service under Lord Raglan.

Mr. S. WORTLEY deprecated the repetition of exaggerated and desponding statements derived from private sources. Many accounts of hardship and privation had doubtless been received, but no single officer on the spot had ever, so far as he was aware, expressed any apprehensions of the final result.

Lord J. RUSSELL entered into some explanations touching the alleged discrepancies in the computed numbers of our troops before Sebastopol. The statement usually put forth was that there were 14,000 or 12,000 effective bayonets before Sebastopol, while it

was admitted that 54,000 men had been sent out; and then it was said, how is it possible, having sent out 34,000, that there only remain 12,000? The House ought to know that this was not a fair comparison; if they took 54,000 on the one side, they ought not to take 12,000 on the other; for the 54,000 men included every military man, all the cavalry, all the artillery, every commissioned and non-commissioned officer, every man under arms, and every orderly employed in hospital or any duty whatsoever; and, when they had taken away all the cavalry, all the artillery, every commissioned and non-commissioned officer, and all who might be employed on any other duty, they would have a residue of from 14,000 to 16,000 men under arms. It was evident then, that the comparison usually made was not a fair one, for, if all these men were added in the mass of 54,000, they ought also to be included on the other side, and then, with the cavalry, artillery, and officers, it would be found that they had an army of from 28,000 to 30,000 men. The state of the troops had been very lamentable, and it was impossible but that every man in that House must feel deeply for them. At the same time, he must say that yesterday he met a civilian who had just returned from the Crimea, and he asked him whether the troops were so emaciated and fallen in strength? and he answered, that a great many were, but that with regard to a large portion of the army those who had strong constitutions—they seemed in possession of their strength and ready to perform any military duty. (Hear.) It might be said that the number of the troops was small for such an undertaking, but they must recollect that theirs was not the only army before Sebastopol, but that there were, including their allies, 80,000 men, who were sufficient to meet any attack. He could only say that he had seen with disdain, and with some disgust, the attacks which had been made upon the gallant commander of the forces, Lord Raglan, who was not only an experienced soldier, but had as much feeling and compassion for the men under his command as any man who had ever worn the British uniform (hear, hear); and he trusted that the noble lord would rise superior to all the attacks made upon him by a ribald press (hear), and would meet with that respect from his country to which he was so justly entitled. (Hear.) With respect to the new Ministry, the First Lord of the Treasury was a man who had great experience on this subject, his energy was undoubted, he had always satisfied the House by the declaration of sentiments the most patriotic, and by the adequate discharge of the duties of the offices which he had held, and he would have with him a noble friend of his (Lord John Russell's), who had accepted the office of the War Department. He believed that the present Secretary for the War Department would be ready to act in a manner which would enable the army—which had suffered, not from want of discipline, but from defects in the civil departments—to sustain the reputation of the country. It might be that during the first year of the war, in attempting too much without restoring all the transport and civil services by which an army is sustained, they had fallen into the grievous misfortunes which the country deplored; but all these services would be restored, and all establishments required would be reorganized by his noble friend the present Secretary for War.

Mr. G. HARCOURT had received, he said, letters from the Crimea of a different complexion from those written in a desponding tone.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER repeated the vindication of his statement, adding that in the computation of 28,000 men as the effective British force in the Crimea, he had not reckoned a single Turk or invalid.

Mr. G. DUNDAS, who had recently returned from the seat of war, communicated a few details respecting the condition of the troops and the arrangements that had recently been effected for their maintenance.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S EDUCATION BILL.

On Thursday, Lord J. RUSSELL said, in asking for leave to bring in the bill of which he had given notice, for the promotion of education in England, he did not wish to say anything which could lead to a discussion. It was desirable, however, that the bill should be introduced, in order that it might be printed, and that the country might see what were its provisions. It would, of course, hereafter be open to the Government to take any course they pleased, with reference to it.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

SIR C. NAPIER AND THE ADMIRALTY.

In the House of Commons on Friday (at a noon sitting), Mr. CRAUFORD inquired whether it was true, as stated in a speech reported to have been made by Admiral Sir C. Napier, that the Board of Admiralty had dismissed and censured him; and what were the instructions which had been given to the Admiral?

Admiral BERKELEY regretted, as much as any one could, the necessity the hon. member was under of putting such a question; he regretted that his old and gallant friend Sir Charles Napier should have been so indiscreet as to make the speech he was reported to have made at the dinner at the Mansion-house. Having expressed that regret, it was his duty to inform the House that Sir Charles Napier had not been censured by the Board of Admiralty; that Sir Charles Napier had not been dismissed from his command; that Sir C. Napier had not been goaded into improperly attacking any one fortress in the Baltic; that Sir C. Napier had not been restricted in any way from attacking those fortresses if he had thought proper to do so; but Sir C. Napier was informed by the Admiralty that the country expected from him that everything that such a fleet as was under his command could perform would be carried out and executed against the enemy. He regretted extremely that Sir C. Napier should have set so bad an example to the officers who would have been under his command; and he regretted that it was his duty, as Senior Naval Lord of the Admiralty, to state how

highly they disapproved of such conduct in any officer of her Majesty's navy. While Sir C. Napier complained of want of confidence, Sir C. Napier should reflect whether the conduct he pursued was such as to give an example fit for those under him to follow; whether by such conduct he could secure the confidence of the officers who were under him, and whether such conduct became the officer who had commanded a fleet acting in conjunction with that of our allies the French. (Cheers.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, new writs for Tiverton and South Wilts were moved for in consequence of the acceptance of office by Lord Palmerston and Mr. S. Herbert.

A new writ was on Thursday ordered to issue, on the motion of Mr. Hayter, for New Windsor, in the room of Lord Charles Wellesley, who had retired from the representation of the borough.

On Thursday, in reply to Mr. Collier, Mr. Cardwell stated that it was his intention to bring in, at the earliest opportunity, the measures of which he had given notice for amending the law of partnership, with the view of introducing the principle of limited liability.

Lord GODERICH has given notice of the following motion for the 20th instant:—"That, in the opinion of this House, the present system of promotion in the army, under which non-commissioned officers rarely attain the rank of commissioned officers, and scarcely ever that of field officers, is injurious to the public service and unjust to the private soldier."

Both Houses of Parliament stand adjourned to Friday next.

THE WAR.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

A supplement to the *London Gazette* published on Wednesday, contained the following despatch from Lord Raglan to the Duke of Newcastle:—

Before Sebastopol, January 23, 1855.

My Lord Duke,—Nothing has occurred of importance in our front; but the enemy has occasionally opened a fire upon our left attack, and Mr. Spalding, a fine young man, an acting mate of her Majesty's ship *London*, and in charge of the battery, was unfortunately killed by a round shot the day before yesterday. His loss is deeply deplored.

I enclose the return of casualties to the 21st instant.

The weather has become milder; but the country is still in a dreadful state from melted snow. The army is well supplied with warm clothing; and if the Commissariat were adequately provided with transport, and the huts could be at once brought up, there would be no other cause of suffering than the severity of a Crimean winter, and the duties imposed of carrying on a siege in such a climate at this season of the year.

I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

The following is a return of casualties from 19th to 21st January.—44th Regiment of Foot: 1 rank and file killed. 89th Regiment: 1 rank and file killed; 1 rank and file wounded. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: 1 rank and file wounded. Total: 2 rank and file killed; 2 rank and file wounded.

The *Gazette* of Friday night contained a despatch from Lord Raglan to the Duke of Newcastle, enclosing a despatch written by Lieutenant-Colonel Simmons at the desire of Omar Pasha, drawing attention to the services of certain British officers who assisted the Turkish army at Giurgevo and Silistria in the summer. The officers are Major Bent, of the Sappers and Miners, Lieutenant Glyn, and Prince Ernest of Saxe-Leiningen, officers of the Britannia, and Private Andrew Anderson. Omar Pasha expressed regret for the loss of Lieutenant Burke. Lord Raglan adds, that Major Gage, of the Royal Horse Artillery, conducted the detachments under his command from Varna to Rustchuk; and calls attention to the fact that Omar Pasha has stated that it will be gratifying to him if her Majesty should be pleased to reward these officers for their able services to the Ottoman army and the common cause.

The French Minister of the Marine and the Colonies has received from Vice-Admiral Bruat the following telegraphic despatch:—

Montebello, Kamiesch Harbour, Jan. 30, 1855.

The General-in-Chief demands of me 30 fresh ship guns, and 15,000 charges, in addition to the 32,000 already required.

The Duperré has just anchored in the harbour of Kamiesch; she brings 950 military passengers, 32 huts, 1,000 bombs, and 320 barrels of powder.

The Panama brings 160 passengers, and army stores (camp furniture and tools).

The following despatch from Lord Raglan to the Duke of Newcastle, was received at the War-office on Monday:—

Before Sebastopol, Jan. 27, 1855.

My Lord Duke,—I have the satisfaction to acquaint your grace that the weather continues fine. There are severe frosts at night; but the sun shines brightly through the day, and there is an absence of wind, which, whilst it continued, added considerably to the sufferings of the troops.

Every exertion is making by public transport and individually in getting huts up; but this is a most difficult operation, and the ground is still so rotten, that it is a most arduous labour to pass along it.

The extremely confined space of Balaklava, and the vast accumulation of stores, has obliged me to erect huts at some distance outside the town for their reception.

I enclose the lists of casualties to the 25th instant inclusive.

I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

The casualties comprised 14 rank and file wounded.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CRIMEA.

STATE OF THE WEATHER AND THE ARMY.

The weather, thanks to Heaven (writes the *Times* Correspondent on the 27th), continues to be extremely

favourable to us. Cold, clear nights, with a bright, unclouded moon, are followed by warm, sunny, genial days. The thermometer generally falls to 18 degs. or 20 degs. at twelve every night, and rises to 44 degs. of Fahrenheit at noon the following day. So far Prince Menschikoff has not received the assistance which he is reported to have expected from "Son bon Général Janvier," and we can only anxiously pray that the aid he looks for from his other *confrère*, "General Fevrier," may be equally insignificant and unsubstantial. Still sickness clings to our troops, and the poor worn-out soldiers who climbed the bloody steeps of the Alma in the splendor of manly strength, and who, full of the noblest courage and devotion, defended in broken file the heights over the Tchernaya against the swarming multitudes of the Muscovite, weak, exhausted, and "washed out" by constant fatigue, incessant wet, insufficient food, want of clothing and of cover from the weather, now die away in their tents night after night. Many of the men are too far gone to recover. Doctors and hospitals and nurses are now too late, and they sink to rest unmurmuringly, and every week some freshly formed lines of narrow mounds indicate the formation of a new burial-place. It must not be by any means inferred that the French escape sickness and mortality altogether. On the contrary, our allies have suffered to a degree which would be excessive, if it were not compared with our own unfortunate standard of disease and death. Whole regiments have vanished as if by magic. Two regiments at least—that is, the officers, the colours, and a few privates and non-commissioned officers, will be sent away for "reorganisation." Is there not something to be learnt out of the fact that few of our officers sicken and die even in the most unhealthy regiments? If the officers are more exposed than the men to the fire of the enemy in action, they are certainly less liable than their men to disease, and to the fatal effects of diarrhoea, fever, and dysentery.

Do people at home know how many bayonets the British army could muster at this moment? Do they believe we have 25,000, after all our reinforcements? They may be told—nay, it may be proved to them by figures at home—that the British army here consists of 55,000 men. I warn the British public not to believe that, with all our reinforcements, they reach near half that number. The grave and the hospital have swallowed them up by thousands. Just think of this "fact,"—that since the first day of December, 1854, down to the 20th of January, 1855, 8,000 sick and wounded men have been sent down from camp to Balaklava, and thence on shipboard! Shall I tell you how many have returned?

And now for another "fact." The battle of Inkermann was fought on the 5th of November, as the world will remember for ever. About 40 per cent. of the brigade of Guards were killed or wounded on that occasion. They have since received reinforcements, and the brigade, which mustered about 2,500 men when it left England, has received some 1,500 men in various draughts up to the end of the year. What is the present strength of the Brigade of Household troops—of that magnificent band who crowned the struggle of the Alma with victory, and beat back the Russian hordes of Inkermann? I think they could muster, including servants and all available soldiers, about 950 men in the whole brigade. Here is another fact. Since the same battle of Inkermann at least 1,000—1,000 men—of the Brigade of Guards have been "expended," absorbed, used up, and are no more seen. The official returns will show how many of that thousand were killed and wounded by the enemy.

SCENES AROUND BALAKLAVA.

A large number of sick, and, I fear, dying men were sent into Balaklava to-day on French mule litters and a few of our bat horses. They formed one of the most ghastly processions that ever poet imagined. Many of these men were all but dead. With closed eyes, open mouths, and ghastly attenuated faces, they were borne along two and two, the thin stream of breath, visible in the frosty air, alone showing they were still alive. One figure was a horror—a corpse, stone-dead, strapped upright in its seat, its legs hanging stiffly down, the eyes staring wide open, the teeth set on the protruding tongue, the head and body nodding with frightful mockery of life at each stride of the mule over the broken road. No doubt the man had died on his way down to the harbour. As the apparition passed, the only remarks the soldiers made were such as this,—"There's one poor fellow out of pain, any way!" Another man I saw with the raw flesh and skin hanging from his fingers, the naked bones of which protruded into the cold air, undressed and uncovered. This was a case of frost-bite, I presume. Possibly the hand had been dressed, but the bandages might have dropped off. All the sick in the mule litters seemed alike on the verge of the grave.

It would astonish a stranger riding out from Balaklava to the front to see the multitudes of dead horses all along the road. In every gully there are piles of the remains of these wretched animals, torn to pieces by wild dogs and vultures. On a lone hillside I beheld the remnants of the gallant grey on which Mr. Maxse rode to the mouth of the Katcha, in company with Major Nasmyth, on the eve of the flank march to Balaklava, and many of the equine survivors of the desperate charge at Balaklava now lie rotting away by the side of the cavalry camp. The attitudes of some of the skeletons are curious. Some have dropped dead, and are frozen stiff as they fell; others are struggling, as it were, to rise from their miry graves. Nearly all of the carcasses have been skinned by the Turks and French, who use the hides to cover their huts; and many suspicious-looking gaps, too, suggestive of horse steak, have been cut out in their flanks. For about six miles the country is dotted all over with these carcasses, in every stage of decay. Were it

spring or summer time, the Chersonese would be one great pesthouse, and I tremble to think of Balaklava and its hillside, full of festering trunks, should there be an army there when the hot weather comes.

ALMOST INCREDIBLE.

The *Charity*, an iron screw steamer, is at present in harbour for the reception of sick British soldiers, who are under the charge of a British medical officer. That officer went on shore to-day and made an application to the officer in charge of the Government stores for two or three to put on board the ship to warm the men. "Three of my men," said he, "died last night from choleraic symptoms, brought on in their present state from the extreme cold of the ship; and I fear more will follow them from the same cause." "Oh!" said the guardian of the stores, "you must make your requisition in due form, send it up to head-quarters, and get it signed properly, and returned, and then I will let you have the stores." "But my men may die meantime." "I can't help that; I must have the requisition." "It is my firm belief that there are men now in a dangerous state whom another night will certainly kill." "I really can do nothing; I must have a requisition properly signed before I can give one of these stores away." "For God's sake, then, lend me some; I'll be responsible for their safety." "I really can do nothing of the kind." "But, consider, this requisition will take time to be filled up and signed, and meantime these poor fellows will go." "I cannot help that." "I'll be responsible for anything you do." "Oh, no, that can't be done." "Will a requisition signed by the P.M.O. of this place be of any use?" "No." "Will it answer if he takes on himself the responsibility?" "Certainly not." The surgeon went off in sorrow and disgust. Such are the "rules" of the service in the hands of incapable and callous men.

But here is a special fact for Dr. Smith, the head of the British Army Medical Department. A surgeon of a regiment stationed on the cliffs above Balaklava, who has about forty sick out of 200 men, has been applying to the "authorities" in the town for the last three weeks for medicines, all simple and essential, and cannot get one of them. The list he sent in was returned with the observation, "We have none of these medicines in store." To-day this poor surgeon, too, came down with his last appeal; "Do, I beg of you, give me any medicine you have for diarrhoea." "We haven't any." "Anything you may have I'll take." "We haven't any." "Have you any medicine for fever you could give? Anything you can let me have I'll take." "We haven't any." "I have a good many cases of rheumatism among my men. Can you let me have any medicines for them?" "We haven't any." Thus for fever, rheumatism, and diarrhoea, the most prevalent complaints of the army, there were no specifics whatever, and the surgeon returned up the hill side with the bitter reflection that he could give no aid to the unfortunate men under his care. Can any one of the "facts" I have stated be denied? Certainly not by any one who regards the truth, and who is not a shameless utterer of falsehoods. Dr. Smith can prove, no doubt, that there are granaries full of the finest and costliest drugs and medicines for fever, rheumatism, and diarrhoea at Scutari, but the knowledge that they are there little avails poor fellows dying here for want of them. Dr. Hall has been informed of this want, I understand, and has taken steps to prevent the recurrence of such heinous neglect in future.

A BATTLE IN THE TRENCHES.

Sunday (the 28th) was celebrated by an extremely heavy fire of musketry between the Russians and the French covering parties and sharpshooters. The volleys which rolled through the less massive reports of the continual rifle practice, were as heavy as those we heard at Alma or Inkermann, and from the numbers of Russian infantry thrown into the works, it is evident that the enemy intended to dispute the small space of ground between the last French trench and the broken outworks of their late batteries, with the greatest vigour and obstinacy. Possibly, indeed, orders have been received instructing the commanding officer to resist any nearer approaches on the part of the French, who have now burrowed up, entrenched, zig-zagged, paralleled and parapetted the whole of the country from the shore below the Quarantine Fort to the rising ground close to the Flag-staff Fort, for two miles in depth, by five or six miles in length. The storm of musketry never ceased last night upon these advanced works, and the constant flashes of the heavy guns lighted up the sky till daylight. The French replied by small arms, and scarcely returned a cannon shot. After daybreak the fire recommenced with great fury, and at about 8 o'clock a regular battle was raging in the trenches between the French and Russians. There could not have been less than 3,000 men on each side firing as hard as they could load and pull trigger, and the lines of the works were marked by thick curling banks of smoke. The fire slackened on both sides about 9 o'clock simultaneously. It is said that the Russians lined the oronellated wall, and were enabled to fire down into the trenches. It is strange enough that this said wall should have stood so long and so well. The last time I saw it—and that was very recently—I could not see any sign of a breach in it, though it is nearly opposite the French centre attack. We further hear that the French drove the Russians back, and effected a lodgment inside their first parallel at a point where it is partially covered by the angle of the ruins of the Flagstaff Battery; but I very much doubt the correctness of that statement. Every night, after unusually heavy firing, some such report is sure to circulate through the camp, and now not a night passes without severe skirmishing, or, rather, sharpshooting, behind the parapets and in the broken ground between the lines. The works, are, indeed, almost into the town, and dominate its suburbs, but the ruined houses of these suburbs are turned into defences for riflemen,

and the town itself is almost one formidable battery, from the glacis up to the ridge over the sea on which the south side of the town is situated.

IMPROVEMENTS AT BALAKLAVA.

The representations which have been so forcibly urged at home respecting the dire confusion prevailing at Balaklava appear likely to lead to some more orderly system, both as regards the arrangements of the shipping in the port itself, and the means of traffic and movement in the narrow streets and crowded wharves of the town, and the roads approaching to them. Nearly all the shops are to be closed, and the Maltese, and Greeks, and others who have been making small fortunes by their exorbitant charges for their wares, are to be turned out. They are to continue their shop-keeping, if they choose, at the neighbouring village of Kadikoi. This will leave the thoroughfares in the town more open, will clear spaces for the more ready transaction of business, and prevent much of the crowding which has previously interrupted the disembarkation and conveyance of stores. Two new piers are to be constructed, and various other improvements to be effected, which, if speedily carried into execution, will cause much of the inconvenience and suffering which have resulted from their neglect up to this time to be forgotten, and ranked only among the things "that were."

At the suggestion of Commander Derriman, of the *Caradoc*, Lord Raglan authorized the authorities at Balaklava to prepare tea for the sick on their arrival in the town before going on board ship. Yesterday Mr. Skead, master of the *Caradoc*, with a working party from the ship, gave more than 300 of these poor creatures a cup of warm tea each at the termination of their cold and harassing journey from the camp. Their delight and gratification at such an unexpected attention were very great. Although there were many sick sent down to-day (the 28th), the issue of the tea, from which so much benefit was derived, had to be suspended. There was no more tea to be had, and even the tea made yesterday came from the stores of the ship.

A RUSSIAN SORTIE.

The Russians are growing more resolute in their sorties. *La Presse*, of Paris, publishes an extract from a letter, dated the 22nd January, describing one of these encounters:—"The Russians have modified their system of attack. Their sorties, which were from the beginning and until last month executed in a slovenly and irresolute manner, are now admirably conducted. In the attack on the 18th they displayed great intrepidity. The snow appears to have excited their warlike ardour and military recollections. Perhaps it is solely owing to the change of their commanders, which, according to the deserters, is very frequent. Towards eleven o'clock on the night of the 14th, our advanced pickets gave notice of the approach of the enemy. There were then in the trenches two companies of the Ninety-fifth Regiment of Infantry, and two others of the Seventy-fourth, under the orders of Commander Roumejoux. Our works are so near the Russians on that point that they came down upon us nearly as soon as the news of their approach, with extraordinary boldness; their officers marching at their head. We coolly awaited them, and when sufficiently close we charged them with the bayonet. A dreadful mêlée ensued; but the Russians, unable to resist when attacked with the bayonet, were speedily driven back, notwithstanding the strenuous exertions they made to maintain themselves on our line and penetrate into the battery. The mêlée continued during their retreat, which does honour to their officers, three of whom were killed at the first rank."

The writer further notices that the Russians "are no longer the men we had to contend with at the beginning of the siege," and that now "they are adversaries by no means to be despised." Another characteristic of the sorties is that a special corps of Russians use lassos to snare their foes, like cattle.

THE TURKISH EXPEDITION TO EUPATORIA.

The *Times* correspondent at Varna, under date Jan. 28, writes:—"About one-half of the troops have already gone, and, at the rate the embarkation is progressing, it is hoped that in a fortnight more the rest will have followed. On good days three battalions have been embarked at Varna, and as many at Baltschik. The steamers employed for the purpose are cleared forward, so that most of them can take from 1,300 to 1,500 men on board. The Turks give little trouble, owing to their sedentary habits and their soberness. They dispense almost with cooking, and live on their biscuits; even the officers content themselves with a piece of cooked meat or a roast fowl, which they take with them. The men, when they embark, take a month's provisions with them, so as to be on their arrival at least independent of the commissariat. Stores have been erected, both at Baltschik and Varna, to which large quantities of wheat, flour, butter, 'kaurma' (a kind of preserved meat), and other articles of provisions are sent from all parts. Besides this, so large a supply of wood and charcoal has been collected, chiefly at Bourgas, that part of it has been put at the disposal of the English and French armies in the Crimea. The men seem very healthy, and in excellent spirits; they look also more soldierlike than their comrades at Balaklava; so that a year's campaigning has not been without its effects on them. There is still the old complaint; a want of officers."

The French Government has received news from Varna to the effect. Omar Pasha had left for Bourgas, to inspect the cavalry and magazines. After that inspection he will embark definitively for Eupatoria. Thirty thousand Ottoman troops have landed at Eupatoria.

OMAR PASHA.

An officer on board H.M.S. *Indefatigable*, placed at the disposal of the Turkish commander, speaking of his

journey from the Crimea back to Varna, says:—"Omar is what may be called a handsome man, and wears his age remarkably well, being close on 50. He has a very pleasing expression of countenance, and an immense flow of spirits. He was quite delighted with the attention shown to him and his followers by our mess. He occupied, of course, the captain's portion of the ship, but every day regularly, twice or three times, he would walk into our gun-room, take his glass of wine, or more generally grog, and sit and chat for an hour or so. His great amusement was in caricaturing his followers for being sea-sick; in especial, he was very hard on Prince Stourza, of Moldavia, one of his aides-de-camp. It appeared this Prince had just married a very beautiful woman, and was very jealous of her, so much so, that when he was leaving to accompany Omar he sent her off with a few servants to some old estate of his in the interior, with strict orders that she was to see no one. Omar knew all this, and used to get this fellow into a dreadful rage by talking about her, and telling what happened in time of war, when beautiful ladies were deserted by their spouses. In fact, he was the life of the whole lot."

THE HOSPITALS AND THE PEEL FUND.

Letters from Scutari agree in representing the hospital arrangements as deplorably inadequate to meet the unhappily increased demands upon them. We have now eight of these establishments in actual operation—and five more are being provided. "Hospitals are forthwith to be established at Smyrna, at Rhodes, and in another island of the Archipelago, not yet finally decided on, so that in a short time we shall have three at Kululbe and four at Scutari for the treatment of the worst cases, and two apiece in the Golden Horn, one at Abydos, and three further south for convalescents, making a terrible total of thirteen establishments, without counting Corfu and Malta, to which large numbers have already been sent." The total number under treatment is estimated at 11,000! The mortality has risen to sixty and seventy per day, at Scutari alone. The new cases are found almost impossible of cure, through long previous neglect. The most indefatigable doctors and attendants are stricken down. Miss Nightingale is the object of universal praise:—

At the Barrack Hospital there is hardly a single second-class staff-surgeon left, for some of them have been taken away, to do duty on board the sick transports, and of the few left behind, Dr. Sammers is very ill, and Dr. Newton, I regret to say, is dead. Like poor Struthers, he too has fallen an untimely victim to the zeal with which he discharged his professional duties. It was fever of a low type in his case also, and, indeed, it is so rife now in every direction, that the wonder is how more of the healthy and strong are not struck down by it. Both Newton and Struthers, it may be a consolation to know, were tended in their last moments, and had their dying eyes closed, by Miss Nightingale herself. Wherever there is disease in its most dangerous form, and the hand of the spoiler distressingly nigh, there is that incomparable woman sure to be seen; her benignant presence is an influence for good comfort, even amid the struggles of expiring nature. She is a "ministering angel" without any exaggeration in these hospitals, and as her slender form glides quietly along each corridor, every poor fellow's face softens with gratitude at the sight of her. When all the medical officers have retired for the night, and silence and darkness have settled down upon those miles of prostrate sick, she may be observed alone, with a little lamp in her hand, making her solitary rounds. The population was not mistaken which when she set out from England on her mission of mercy, hailed her as a heroine; I trust that she may not earn her title to a higher though sadder appellation. No one who has observed her fragile figure and delicate health can avoid misgivings lest these should fail. With the heart of a true woman, and the manners of a lady, accomplished and refined beyond most of her sex, she combines a surprising calmness of judgment and promptitude and decision of character.

The £10,000 fund is nearly exhausted. But of course it will be replenished. The *Times*, in an article of Monday, after setting forth the immense benefits its administration has been to our unfortunate sick and wounded, and even to regiments *en route* or in the camp, shows the undiminished necessity for its commissioner's services, and consents to disburse £5,000 more,—subscriptions to be sent to Messrs. Coutts's, addressed for "The Sick and Wounded in the East."

It is due to the journal that has rendered this saving aid to our army, to give its own vindication from some paltry charges:—

We sent out one of the ablest members of our corps, and, if we may be permitted to describe him, one of the "best fellows" in it—a man of great observation, vigilance, decision, and tact, of a thoroughly genial mind, and with the overruling determination to let no obstacle, no annoyance or pique, prevent him from doing his duty as almoner to our sick and wounded countrymen. A journal, we are told, has hinted that we have maintained a correspondent out of the Fund. The fact is, that the whole of this gentleman's expenses, from the day of his having left our office until his return, will be paid by ourselves, and so it was explained when we undertook the mission. That is our subscription to the Fund.

Some gentlemen in Parliament have insinuated that we have placed ourselves under a pecuniary obligation to Government, by obtaining a free passage and rations for one of our correspondents. As that Government had absorbed the whole packet service of the Mediterranean, and as the British Army might, in accordance with the usages of war, appropriate all the food in the Crimea, every man who ventures to go there must ask some such favour, or find himself quite at the mercy of the lowest military official. To provide against the worst, we obtained permission for our correspondent to draw a ration of salt pork and biscuit a-day, PAYING ITS FULL VALUE, which happens to be sixpence. The Duke of Newcastle, whose arrangements have been entirely ineffectual to secure rations for the 54,000 soldiers in his keeping, makes it his boast, and doubtless feels it some compensation for his other failures, that he has withdrawn the single ration of the man who has told the sad tale. It is so much easier to starve one man than to feed 54,000 that we are surprised

his Grace should think it an equivalent; but, at all events, there is something on the credit side—viz., against 54,000 soldiers starved by mismanagement, one *Times* correspondent is also starved to order.

Perhaps, however, countlets as have been the instances of official arrogance, selfishness, and stupidity, they are all outdone by the following:—One of the ships employed in the transport of the sick and wounded from Balaklava to Scutari was the *Golden Horn* steamer. The largest cabin had been very properly directed by Admiral Boxer to be used as the surgery; but the Rev. Mr. Wright, senior chaplain to her Majesty's forces in the East, took a fancy for it, and actually installed himself in it to the exclusion of medical officers. When Dr. Rathford quietly represented to him the uses to which the cabin was to be applied, this ornament of his profession sat down and wrote him a note, of which the following are extracts:—

I am quite ready to take upon myself the responsibility of retaining my cabin until my arrival at Balaklava, and I feel quite sure that the Commander of the Forces will not consider my conduct wrong in upholding my position as Principal Chaplain of Her Majesty's Forces. You are perfectly at liberty to make any arrangements for the comfort of the sick, but that you and an assistant-surgeon should wish to remove me from my present cabin, is, I conceive not only highly wrong, but especially so as directed towards me, a clergyman.

I have the honour to consider your manner highly unbecoming, and shall not fail to report it to Lord Raglan.

This heartless display of clerical arrogance proceeded from the same reverend gentleman who originated the order prohibiting the benevolent and excellent Mr. Hayward from distributing the supplies forwarded to him at the expense of the Fund, for the benefit of the sick and wounded in camp and at Balaklava.

GERMANY AND THE WAR.

In the sitting of the 3rd inst. the German Diet adopted the proposition to place the principal contingents on a war footing, so that they may be ready to take the field within a fortnight after the order has been given.

A diplomatic note was addressed on the 29th ult., by M. Drouyn de Lhuys, to the French Minister at Berlin. The French Minister of Foreign Affairs, tacitly conceding former objections, expresses the readiness of his government to make a separate treaty of alliance with Prussia, provided that such treaty shall impose the same ultimate obligations upon Prussia as Austria took upon herself by the treaty of Dec. 2. In this despatch, also, M. Drouyn de Lhuys returns to the subject of Prussia's exclusion from the common deliberations of England, France, and Austria, and in firm language repeats that such exclusion must continue until the court of Berlin prove itself ready to participate in the engagements, as well as the councils, of the three allies.

When MM. de Wedell and Usedom arrived in Paris (says the correspondent of the *Daily News*), the Foreign Minister received them with more than diplomatic courtesy, and talked so accommodatingly about the "analogous treaty," as to lead these statesmen to believe that Prussia had really gained her point. It is quite certain that up to the present moment, M. Drouyn de Lhuys' offer has not been accepted; and further, very little expectation is entertained that it will be accepted. The preparations on the assumption that it will not be going on more actively than ever. I am enabled to state that on the occasion of the Emperor's first interview with M. Wedell, he asked the Prussian envoy plainly, whether his Government would allow a French army to march against Russia across the Prussian territory. M. Wedell replied that he had no sufficient instructions to answer such a question, but he thought he might safely say that the King of Prussia would not allow it. The Emperor rejoined that in that case his army would pass without permission. M. Wedell retired from the presence chamber, pale and disconcerted. The probability is that M. Drouyn de Lhuys, knowing that Prussia was insincere in making merely formal objections to adhere to the treaty with Austria, proposed the "Analogous treaty," in order to put her to the test, and to prove to the world that the real objections of the Prussian Government were not technical, but substantial. The general belief to-day is that M. Wedell claims for Prussia the right to remain neutral.

The King of Prussia has sent another special political mission to Paris—M. de Niebuhr, his private secretary, and a hot partisan of Russia.

In a recent debate in the Second Chamber of Bavaria, on the credit for extraordinary purposes connected with the army, Count Wallerstein called upon the Minister to declare that he would go with Austria on the Eastern question. M. van der Pforten declined to state the intentions of the Ministry, and claimed the vote as a question of confidence. On the report of the committee, the Chamber reduced the sum demanded by the Government from fifteen to six millions; alleging that that sum would suffice to enable the Government to fulfil its federal duties.

RUSSIAN TOLERATION OF PEACE PRINCIPLES.

Lord Panmure, in a speech delivered at a Bible meeting in Edinburgh, and in reply to some remarks previously made by Mr. Bright, M.P., at a meeting of the same society in Rochdale, alluded to a German colony of Moravians settled in the Crimea, who, when a certain degree of religious toleration existed in Russia, emigrated from the Baltic with a view to propagate the principles of Christianity as held by that body among the Crimean Tartars. Lord Panmure, stated that the self-denying exertions of the Moravians had produced a most salutary effect upon the manners of the Crimean population within their influence; but that during the reign of the present Czar, and after the death of his mother, the Greek priests, jealous of the teachings of the Moravians, had effectually put an end to their labours, unless they made their converts members of the Greek Church; at present the mem-

bers of this little colony, he said, were obliged to limit their labours to the cultivation of the soil, and the promotion of their own material comfort. It seems the colony of Moravians in the Crimea hold opinions with regard to the unlawfulness of war precisely analogous to the principles maintained by the members of the Society of Friends in this country, and therefore have always been an object of interest to the English Society of Friends. During the life-time of the Emperor Alexander and his mother, Mary Feodorovna, when Elizabeth Fry, William Allen, and other influential Quakers were upon terms of intimacy with the Russian Court, a special ukase was promulgated exempting the Moravian colony in the Crimea from military service, with the exception of converts added to the colony. We are sorry to hear that the promise of exemption from military service ceded to the colony by Russia has been broken, and that some influential Quaker families in the north of England have learnt that, upon the able-bodied portion of the male population having refused to enter the Russian army or perform military duty, the military authorities have subjected them to every indignity and cruelty, such as flogging, imprisonment, &c., and, by the last advice which have reached England, the Quakers have ascertained that 300 of the poor Moravians have been hanged for refusing to take up arms.

RUSSIAN ACCOUNT OF INKERMANN.

It is said in Berlin that Duke George of Strelitz has communicated some interesting details to military men relative to the disaster of Inkermann. According to this, the plan of attack, long discussed and minutely prearranged, was so admirable that the Anglo-French Army was regarded as fore-doomed, had it not been for utter misconstruction, amounting to disobedience of orders. Thus, false or reserved attacks were inopportunely converted into foremost action, and foremost action, and foremost assaults retarded or carried out in wrong directions. The brunt was to have been directed upon the extreme French right, so as to separate it from the English, in lieu, as matters turned out, of the former being enabled to throw themselves on the assailants' flank, cut them off from the fortress, and force them back on the Tchernaya. Liprandi, also, with his twenty-one battalions and twenty-four squadrons, might have converted his demonstration into a vigorous assault as a diversion at the moment of crisis. In a word, the whole plan was deranged, and executed with great confusion and negligence, or a perversion of preconcerted orders.

The Emperor was irritated beyond expression. The plan was deemed infallible. The allied army was already regarded as no more. Prince Menschikoff almost answered for its total destruction—upon his head. The conviction of success was so complete at St. Petersburg, that the Emperor would not give credit to the first telegraphic despatch cautiously announcing that the Imperial hopes had been blighted—not blighted by the dauntless and even superhuman valour of a few thousand British and French heroes, but by some of those fatalities which strategists and tacticians place under the head of "frictions of war."

The Czar at first blamed Prince Menschikoff, who, as commander-in-chief, ought to have been responsible. But he cleared himself by copies of written orders and notes of precise verbal instructions to commanders of columns. He was denied powers of ubiquity; he could not lead each column himself; he was at hand to direct the whole; and therefore discharged the blame upon Dannenberg. The latter endeavoured to shelter himself by attributing the fault to the impetuosity and wilfulness of Solmonoff, and the error of Pauloff. The latter cleared himself by pleading insuperable difficulties of ground, and other counteractions. Solmonoff had died the death of a gallant soldier, and luckily for him, perhaps, as the Czar's wrath would have fallen upon his head, and he would have been brought to a court-martial for disobedience or mal-execution of orders, and of thereby causing the disastrous failure. Had he lived, he would probably have been degraded. But a scapegoat was necessary; so the Imperial cholera was concentrated upon Dannenberg, who, it is understood, reached St. Petersburg to answer for the faults and failure of all.

ARRIVALS OF WOUNDED FROM THE CRIMEA AND TURKEY.

There have been several arrivals of sick and wounded from the army in the Crimea and the hospitals of Constantinople, during the past week. The Harbinger steamer landed at Portsmouth eighty-one non-commissioned officers and men of various regiments on board, all of whom, with one exception, were wounded, the injuries they have received including almost every possible description of wounds. Amongst the passengers was Dr. Menries, chief of the hospital at Scutari. Amongst the officers Sir Thomas Troubridge and Captain Macdonald were most severely wounded; the first named has both his legs shot off, one just below the knee, and the other above the ankle, whilst the latter has seventeen or eighteen different wounds in his body. Both suffer, of course, but display the best spirits, and acknowledge most readily any assistance or kindness afforded them. Sir Thomas was removed in an easy chair from the ship to the official residence in this dockyard of his relative, Admiral Sir T. Cochrane, the Commander-in-Chief, whilst Captain Macdonald was conveyed in a comfortable litter to the George Hotel. The other officers were well enough to leave the ship in cabs. A large quantity of baggage was brought home by the Harbinger; some of it has never been opened, the officers and men to whom it was sent having been killed, or died before it got out. Amongst it are several boxes and presents to the late Major-General Cathcart.

The *Talavera* brought to Plymouth 193 wounded and invalids, many of them being in a wretched condition.

The invalid soldiers brought home by the *Cambria* have signed an address to the Mayor of Liverpool, expressing their gratitude for the great and universal kindness with which they have been treated.

The *Neptune*, 120, Captain Hutton, at Spithead, disembarked 186 of her military invalids by means of the *Sprightly* steam-tender, at Portsmouth dockyard, on Friday afternoon. The poor fellows were wrapped in blankets to shield them in some measure from the cold, being all on deck. There remain on board the *Neptune* 14 severe cases, which cannot be landed at present.

The *Orinoco* steam-ship arrived at Spithead on Friday, having on board Lieutenant-Colonel Stratton, Major Cameron, the Rev. Mr. Halpin, Mr. Stickney, D.O.G., Captain Telford, of the 17th; Captain Bennett, of the 20th; Captain Miller, of the 79th; Captain Hutton, of the 4th Dragoons; Captain Fairclough, of the 63rd; Captain Cookburn, of the 63rd (in charge of the invalids); Lieutenant Nevil, Lieutenant M'Bayne, Lieutenant M'Donald, Assistant-Surgeon Irwin, of the 28th; Veterinary-Surgeon Poett, of the 1st Royal Dragoons; Mr. Barron, D.A.C.G.; Paymaster Alldridge, R.N.; Mr. and Mrs. Hannah and Sons; Mr. Ferguson, Assistant Engineer, R.N.; Mr. Lambert, Commissioner's Clerk; two Assistant Commissariat storekeepers; seven women nurses, from Scutari; 111 sick and wounded soldiers; and 9 women. The only wounded officers by her are Captain Hutton, who was shot through both thighs at Balaklava; Captain Fairclough, wounded at Inkermann; and Captain Bennett, wounded in the side at Inkermann. The men are from nearly every regiment in the field, and many are very severely maimed, amputations having been numerous. The correspondent of the *Times* spoke to some of the men. On learning the nature of the letters read in the House of Commons respecting the perfect arrangements at Balaklava, they lifted up their hands and eyes in amazement, and the exclamation which followed was of the shortest and most perfect in its application to such a statement. They expressed loud indignation at the treatment of Mr. Russell, of the *Times*, whose company they said cheered many a man in his last moments, and who was beloved wherever his society was enjoyed. "The officers to whom I spoke (adds the writer) inquired of me whether anything was to be done with Lord Raglan? I could not pretend to say. They said the sooner he was displaced the better, as there were, when they left the camp, only 12,000 men left out of the 54,000 boasted of so lately. Lord Lucan, too, they hoped would be displaced. My informants stated they had themselves never once seen Lord Raglan in the camp." The *Orinoco* also landed on Saturday the baggage and horses belonging to the Duke of Cambridge and his staff.

The *Neptune* disembarked into the steaming *Pigmy*, at Spithead, on Saturday, the remainder of her wounded invalids. The gallant sufferers cheered heartily Captain Hutton and his officers and crew, and before leaving, presented a grateful testimonial, through the officer (Captain Grogan) who had charge of them. They appear to have landed without any of those inconveniences which occurred on recent occasions.

A medical board assembled at Chelsea Hospital on Wednesday, for the purpose of examining the invalids who have recently returned from the seat of war, and of deciding who were competent to remain in the army, and who must be discharged from the service with pensions.

MISSION OF LORD JOHN RUSSELL TO VIENNA.

(From the *Times* of yesterday.)

We have reason to believe that Lord John Russell has accepted the duties of British Plenipotentiary in the conferences and negotiations about to open at Vienna, and that his Lordship will proceed, in a very few days, to that destination. It is further stated that Mr. Hammond, a gentleman who fills with great ability the office of Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and who is consequently thoroughly acquainted with the diplomatic relations of this country, will accompany the mission; so that Great Britain will be represented at this conference by a Minister of State, who, till within the last few days, has taken part in all the deliberations of the Cabinet on the present war, and also by a gentleman who is equally well versed in all the official details of these important transactions. It is evident that since the memorable occasion on which Lord Castlereagh, being at that time himself the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, quitted England to join the Plenipotentiaries of the allied powers at Chatillon, and afterwards at Vienna, no negotiation has been opened in Europe of more momentous consequences to the honour of England and the interests of the world than that in which we are about to engage; and on every account we think there is great reason for satisfaction at the selection of Lord John Russell as an Envoy. It will be for the advantage of Lord John himself to withdraw for a while in the public service from that arena of party politics in which some of his late appearances have been so unfortunate for his own reputation. To be the representative of the Crown in a conference of empires, the object of which is to restore security and peace to the East, to re-establish the authority of international law, and to provide guarantees against future aggressions, is a post of the highest rank; and, although we have recently had occasion to express an unqualified opinion on the conduct pursued by Lord John Russell in Parliament, we cannot but rejoice that an opportunity should be afforded him of regaining by services of another kind the consideration of the country.

(From the *Daily News* of yesterday.)

Lord John Russell goes to Vienna on a special mission, with a view to carry on negotiations for peace.

Since the declaration of the Czar, that he was willing to renew negotiations on the basis of the four points, has rendered them inevitable, it is reassuring that the management of these negotiations, on the part of England, is entrusted to Lord John Russell. The habitual tone in which our differences with Russia have been talked of at the English embassy in Vienna has been such as would have awakened serious fears for the honour of England had their management devolved on our resident minister there. The reasons assigned by Lord John for quitting the Aberdeen Cabinet—the cautious and reluctant manner in which he gave his assent to the Austrian treaty—and the whole tenor of his political life, afford a guarantee that, in these renewed negotiations, the honour and interests of England will be safe in his hands.

SUPPLYING THE ARMY BY CONTRACT.

The *Times* of Monday, in a leading article, states that "a firm of the highest respectability in the provisioning trade" has offered to the Government to supply our army with provisions, &c., by contract:—"This firm, then, are prepared to bind themselves in the heaviest penalties which the jealousy of Government can impose to supply to the British army in its present position, or anywhere within two hundred miles of the coast, food consisting of three meals a-day, to be cooked and delivered at the head quarters of each battalion. The breakfast is to consist of tea, coffee, or cocoa, according to choice, and of fresh-baked bread; the dinner of bread, meat, and potatoes, with a quart of malt liquor, and the ordinary allowance of rum. They undertake to give fresh meat twice a-week, and vegetables besides potatoes. To this is to be added a substantial evening meal. They are willing to bind themselves under the heaviest penalties, not merely for the performance of the contract in general, but for the punctual delivery of every meal to the soldiers. They ask no assistance from the Government for performing this task, except their forbearance and non-interference. They want neither our ships, our carts, nor our men. They are contented to take the roads as they find them, and to relieve the British soldier from any care or thought for his own maintenance. And this service they are ready to perform at the rate of 3s. 3d. a-head per diem, expressing every confidence that they shall gain at least ninepence a-head by the contract! Observing, also, the miseries suffered by our men from defective tents, they are willing to undertake, for another threepence a-head, to provide our soldiers with excellent tents, to be approved by the commanding officer, and to be replaced whenever disallowed. Thus, for three-and-sixpence a-head per diem is a firm of the most undoubted respectability and solvency willing to undertake, under the most ruinous penalties, to provide our troops with competent food and shelter. A rough calculation will show that, at this rate, an army of 30,000 men might be fed and sheltered for about £1,825,000 per annum,—a sum which would not only provide our men with that which, with all our machinery of Boards, of transports, of commissariat officers, mules, carts, returns, contracts, vouchers, and invoices, we are not able to do, but would set at liberty the vast amount of shipping now employed in this fruitless and wasteful attempt, and leave us in the undisputed possession of the energies of all our commissariat officers, if we could only find any useful purpose to which we could apply them. If the contract were really performed, the saving to the public would be enormous, but the mere pecuniary economy would be nothing, compared with the delight every one in this country would experience in thinking that our soldiers were no longer worse fed than his dogs, and that the richest country in the world was no longer subject to the reproach that, while wallowing herself in abundance, she left her best and bravest to feel the horrors of famine, or feed on food little better than slow poison, and that within seven miles of the sea, of which she boasts to be the mistress. Possibly it might be found, also, that starvation and death are not the necessary and inseparable lot of the poor animals of draught and burden employed in the service of a campaign, and that a contractor might be found who would accomplish what the commissariat has found impossible,—the providing them with food, and the sheltering them from the cold. Our national character requires redeeming in the eyes of Europe, and we should rejoice to see that, amid the utter prostration of the administration of war, the energy of individual citizens was capable of restoring to the country the honour of which the weakness of her Government has deprived her.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A letter from Constantinople states that Lady Redcliffe visits the hospital daily.

The firman prohibiting the sale of slaves had produced discontent in Circassia.

The telegraph has announced the arrival of the first detachment of the 10th Hussars at Suez, from India.

The *Independence Belge* states, as from high authority, that the Vienna conferences will open on the 15th inst.

The Turkish Divan has communicated to the Ambassadors of the Allied Powers several propositions for reform in the civil service.

The Earl of Mount-Edgumbe has published the testimony of several Royal Marines in refutation of statements imputing invisibility in camp to Lord Raglan.

Abd el Kader has despatched one of his aides-de-camp to Paris, to request the Emperor to give him the command of the native African troops serving at Sebastopol.

It is reported in Paris that General Canrobert, who has a warm enemy at Court in Prince Napoleon Jerome, is to be superseded by general Pelissier, who has recently arrived in the Crimea from Algeria.

By direct order of the Emperor, Prince Paskiewitch has forbidden the export of brandy and other spirituous

liquors to Austria. The Government commission has published the order.

A good contribution to the Patriotic Fund may be expected from Guiana. The Governor himself led the people of Victoria Village to contribute liberally, by addressing a stirring speech to them.

Prince Paskiewitch, whose departure from St. Petersburg was announced for the 25th ult., will prolong his stay there, at the express desire of the Emperor.

The English missionaries to the Jews in Russian Poland are banished. Their printing and bookbinding establishments, library, and chapel, have been appropriated by the Government, and are offered for sale.

The telegraphic line from Varna to Bucharest is completed as far as Kalagareni, about two hours' distance from Bucharest. The line passes through Giurgevo.

A Government commission is now sitting in London to inquire into the blunders of the war transport service, and to devise the best plan for such service for the future. The commission has been sitting for the last ten days.

The total number of merchant-vessels taken up by the Government for war purposes is 206; the tonnage, 205,388. The sailing-ships are 105, of a burden of 91,026 tons; the steamers are 101, of 114,362 tons.

It appears that Lord Raglan not only continues to draw his salary as Master-General of the Ordnance but that his various sources of emolument in the public service will make his income little short of £10,000 per annum.

It is stated that the Emperor of the French lately told some general officers that, unless something unexpected should occur to alter present arrangements, a general assault upon Sebastopol would be made on the 12th instant. —[Most unlikely.]

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* contains an address by the Czar to the Hetman of the Don Cossacks, expressing his confidence that they will fight courageously for the church, the throne, and the country.

Orders have been issued from the War-office that the whole of the regiments forming the army in the Crimea are to have their present strength raised to 2,000, with 12 companies of 130 rank and file in the field, and four companies in the depot at Malta or the Ionian Islands.

The *Journal de la Moselle*, of the 9th, mentions a very prevalent report that a camp of 100 to 120 thousand men is about to be formed in the neighbourhood of Metz, and adds that the Emperor will take the command in person; and that the Stanislaus Palace is being prepared for his reception.

The managers of Price's Patent Candle Company have announced that the Government has given an order for 250 "candle stoves" and 2,000 boxes of fuel, for hospital use in the Crimea, and at Scutari and Smyrna. A good number, which have been purchased by the Crimea Committee, will be sent out for the use of the army.

It has, we hear, been at length determined to place the Foreign European Legion under the command of Colonel F. R. Chesney, of the Royal Artillery. A Turkish Legion is to be formed at Constantinople, and officered by the British, who are to receive pay from their own Government. This augurs a continuance of the war for an indefinite period. —*Examiner*.

It is said that General Canrobert has ordered all the correspondents of the French press to quit the Crimea, even one who had brought a letter of introduction from a Minister holding a high position in the councils of the Emperor, Louis Napoleon. He had likewise published an order of the day, commanding the officers who should write to their friends to desire them not to give their letters for publication.

A gentleman much respected in Bristol, and a partner in one of the principal banks in that city, has two nephews in Sebastopol serving in the Russian army, and two nephews outside Sebastopol serving in the French army. They are sons of two sisters married one to a Russian and the other to a French gentleman. Both Russians and French have also cousins in the English army.

Mr. Lindsay, M.P., is now in Paris, on his way to Constantinople, on a special mission to organise a prompt and regular service of steamers between Sebastopol and Marseilles. He is in communication with the French Government on the subject. It is thought that the sick and convalescent may be removed with advantage to the lazaretto at Marseilles, instead of remaining at Constantinople during the unhealthy spring months.

The Russian Major who was taken prisoner at Inkermann in the act of stabbing the wounded, was not, as has been reported, executed. When captured he had a severe wound in his shoulder, and was sent to the hospital at Kululee, near Scutari, which is set apart for wounded Russian prisoners, and where he died a short time ago. The doctor who attended him says he has preserved the wounded joint "as a memorial of the monster."

Great preparations are being made at St. Petersburg for the spring campaign. Lines of telegraph (says a correspondent of the *Times* at Kiel), are now forming along the shores of the Gulfs, and every precaution will be adopted to prevent the possibility of surprise. A step in advance is now contemplated. They have plucked up courage from our backwardness last year, and attack, not defence, has become their theme. They now intend more fully to equip their ships, so as to fit them for seeking an encounter with the allied fleets.

The camp at Boulogne is now called "the army of the Rhine" by the journals. It is stated that the troops there will be increased to 200,000; that the officers have received orders to be in readiness to march at a short notice; and that the Emperor, with General Schramm for a lieutenant, will command them in chief.

The *Augsburg Gazette* confidently states that the military convention between Austria and France, now ready for signature, stipulates that a French army shall be brought to the Russo-Polish frontier, marching by Milan and Laybach, and thence by railway.

The *Gazette* of Friday contains a proclamation commencing:—"Whereas, information has been received that certain acts of a highly treasonable nature have been or are about to be done or attempted by certain British subjects adhering to the Queen's enemies, either within her Majesty's dominions or in parts beyond the seas," such as building and equipping ships, providing stores, tackling, ammunition, and the like, or otherwise aiding and abetting the Queen's enemies: it warns such persons that "they will be liable to be apprehended and dealt with as traitors, and proceeded against with the utmost rigour of the law."

In his speech a few days ago, in the House of Lords, the Earl of Malmesbury denied that the peerage and aristocracy held nearly all the best commissions in the army. He stated, for instance, that he could only find eighteen officers in the Grenadier Guards "at all connected with the peerage." A correspondent of the *Times* corrects the noble lord. From an inspection of the *Army List* he makes out that there are in the Grenadier Guards twenty-seven officers having "handles to their names;" thirty otherwise closely connected with noble families, and five eldest sons of baronets. In all, sixty-two members of the aristocracy in one regiment!

The *Gazette & Augsburg* states that, according to Russian accounts, the total forces of Russia now in the field amount to 695,000 men; and that before the lapse of six months a reserve force of 200,000 bayonets will be established. These troops are distributed over a vast space of territory in Europe and Asia. To this Russian army Austria can oppose one no less redoubtable. The first Austrian army is composed of 144 cannon and 67,600 bayonets; the second of 186 cannon and 121,000 men; the third of 252 cannon and 236,000 men; the fourth of 54 cannon and 119,800 men; together, 594,000 bayonets and 686 cannon, without counting the reserve, which in two months, including the frontier regiments, will exceed 200,000 men.

The *Times* Paris correspondent is informed that a French company has offered to raise in France a legion for the service of the English Government. The company engages to supply 10,000 to 25,000 men within the shortest possible time, half the number that may be agreed upon to be ready in 15 days at the utmost. In order to effect that undertaking it requires that it shall be permitted to recruit in France all who, according to the recent law of emigration are in free enjoyment of the right to quit France for America or any other part of the world they please. It is stated that the English Government is disposed to entertain the propositions of the company, and only awaits, to enter on its execution, the assent of the French Government.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S EDUCATION BILL.

The following is a copy of the Educational measure announced by Lord John Russell. It is entitled:—"A Bill to Promote Education in England."

[Note.—The words printed in *Italics* are proposed to be inserted in Committee.]

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

I. It shall be lawful for the council of any borough in England to submit to the Education Committee of the Privy Council a scheme for the promotion of education in such borough, whether by establishing and maintaining a new school or schools, or by aiding any existing school or schools with a view to extend the benefits thereof, or by both such means, showing the particulars of the school or schools so proposed to be established or adopted for the government or management of such school or schools, including any rules in force which it is proposed to continue in any school to be so aided, with an estimate of the expenditure which will be from time to time required for such school or schools as aforesaid, in addition to any funds which the council may have at its disposal, or which may be otherwise available for the proposed objects.

II. No scheme shall be submitted as aforesaid by the council of any borough, except in pursuance of an order made at a meeting of such council at which not less than two-thirds of the whole number of such council are present, which meeting shall be summoned by public notice, and by a summons to every member to attend such meeting, the notice and summons specifying the intention to propose making such order, and such notice and summons being given according to the provisions of the Act of the session holden in the fifth and sixth years of King William the Fourth, chapter seventy-six, concerning the like notice and summons, fourteen clear days at least before such meeting.

III. In case the said Education Committee approve of such scheme, either with or without any alteration or modification, it shall be lawful for the borough council by which the same has been submitted to such Committee to carry the same into effect.

IV. Such scheme and any such rules so submitted to and approved by the said Education Committee may be at any time altered by the council, with the approval of the said Education Committee, but not otherwise.

V. The expenditure to be incurred under this Act in any borough beyond what may be defrayed out of other funds available for that purpose, shall be chargeable upon and paid out of the borough fund, and for that purpose the council may levy with and as part of the borough-rate, or by a separate rate, to be assessed, levied, paid, and recovered in like manner, and with the like powers and remedies in all respects, as the

borough-rate, such sums of money as shall be from time to time necessary for defraying such expenditure, and shall apply the same accordingly, as if such expenditure were an expense necessarily incurred in carrying into effect the provisions of the said act of the fifth and sixth years of King William the Fourth: provided always, that no greater amount shall be raised by rate by virtue of this Act in any borough in any year than after the rate of *sixpence* in the pound or the annual value of the property rateable to a borough-rate in such borough.

VI. This act may be adopted in manner hereinafter mentioned by any parish not within any borough.

VII. Any number of ratepayers amounting at least *one fifth* of the ratepayers of any parish, or to *fifty* parishioners, may deliver a requisition signed by them, and describing their places of residence, to the churchwardens of the said parish, or to one of them, requiring the said churchwardens to ascertain in manner hereinafter mentioned whether or not a majority of the ratepayers of the parish wish this act to be adopted therein; and such requisition may be in the form or to the effect following; (that is to say,)

"To the Churchwardens of the Parish [insert here the name of the parish].

"We whose names are hereunto subscribed, being ratepayers resident in the said parish, and respectively rated or assessed to the relief of the poor thereof, hereby require you the said churchwardens to ascertain and determine the adoption or non-adoption of an act of the year of the reign of Queen Victoria, chapter , 'to promote education in England.'"

VIII. The said churchwardens of the said parish shall, on the first or second Sunday after the receipt of such requisition, affix or cause to be affixed a notice to the principal doors of every church and chapel within the said parish, specifying some day, not earlier than *ten* days and not later than *twenty-one* days after such Sunday, and at what place or places within the said parish, the ratepayers are required to signify their votes for or against the adoption of this act, which votes shall be received on *three* successive days, commencing at *eight* of the clock in the forenoon and ending at *four* of the clock in the afternoon of each day: and the said notice shall be to the following effect:

"The churchwardens of this parish of [insert here the name of the parish] having received a requisition duly signed according to the provisions of an Act of the year of the reign of Queen Victoria, chapter , 'to promote education in England,' the ratepayers of the said parish are hereby required, all and each of them, on the day of next, and the two following days, to signify to the said churchwardens by a declaration, either printed or written, or partly printed or partly written, addressed and delivered to one of the churchwardens at [insert here the place], their votes for or against the adoption of the aforesaid Act.

(Signed) Churchwardens."

IX. The said declaration shall be to the following effect:—

"I, A.B., of Street [or Place or House] in this Parish of vote [for or against, as the case may be], the adoption by this parish of the Act of the Year of the Reign of Queen Victoria, Chapter , 'to promote Education in England.'"

X. The said churchwardens shall carefully examine the votes to them delivered as aforesaid, and shall compare them with the last rate made for the relief of the poor of the said parish, and shall be empowered to call before them, and examine, any parish officer touching the said vote, or any ratepayer so giving his vote, and after a full and fair summing up of the said votes shall, by public notice according to the form and manner hereinafter prescribed, declare whether or not *two-thirds* of the votes given have been given in favour of the adoption of this Act; and the adoption or non-adoption of this Act shall be decided by such number of votes as aforesaid: provided always, that the whole number of persons voting shall be a clear majority of the ratepayers of the parish.

XI. Any of the ratepayers of the said parish, not exceeding *five* together, may inspect, at or in the vestry-room, or in some convenient place within the same parish, the votes so given for and against the adoption of this Act, at all reasonable times within *one month* after such notice has been given; and the churchwardens of the said parish are hereby required carefully to preserve the said votes, and freely to permit the examination thereof by the said ratepayers at all reasonable times within the period aforesaid.

XII. No person shall be deemed a ratepayer, or be entitled to vote or act as such, under this Act, unless he have been rated to the relief of the poor for the whole year immediately preceding his so voting or otherwise acting as such ratepayer, and have paid all the parochial rates due from him at the time of so voting or acting, except such as have been made or become due within the *six* months immediately preceding such voting.

XIII. Notice of the adoption of this Act by any parish shall be forthwith given by the churchwardens for the time being of the parish by affixing a notice of the same to the principal doors of every church and chapel within the parish; which notice shall be to the following effect:

"Parish of [here insert the name of parish].

"Notice is hereby given, that the above-named parish has adopted the Act of the Year of the Reign of Queen Victoria, Chapter , 'to promote Education in England; and that the numbers of the majority and minority of votes given for and against the adoption of the said Act are as follows; that is to say, votes for the adoption thereof, and votes against the adoption thereof.

"Dated this day of in the Year of our Lord (Signed) Churchwardens."

XIV. If the ratepayers determine, in manner aforesaid, against the adoption of the Act, it shall not be lawful to make another requisition for the same purpose within *three* years after such determination.

XV. If any churchwarden refuse or neglect to give any notice directed by this Act, or to receive the vote of any ratepayer as aforesaid, or in any manner whatsoever alter, falsify, conceal, or suppress any vote as aforesaid, such churchwarden shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanour.

XVI. Where this act is adopted by any parish, the vestry of such parish may submit to the Education Committee of Privy Council a scheme for the promotion of education in such parish, with the like particulars and the like estimate of expenditure as herein-before provided with respect to the council of a borough, such scheme to be signed by the chairman presiding at such vestry; and the provisions herein-before contained concerning the approval of a scheme submitted by the council of a borough, and authorizing the carrying of such scheme into effect, and concerning the alteration of such scheme by such council, with the approval of the said committee, shall apply to a scheme submitted by the vestry, and to such vestry, in like manner as to the scheme submitted by such council and to such council.

XVII. The expenditure incurred under this Act in any parish beyond what may be defrayed out of other funds available for that purpose, shall be charged upon and paid out of the rates for the relief of the poor of such parish; and the overseers or other officers authorized to make and levy rates for the relief of the poor in such parish shall, upon receipt of an order under the hand of the chairman presiding at any meeting of the vestry of such parish, in pursuance of any resolution of such vestry, pay the sums therein mentioned out of the rates for the relief of the poor, in manner thereby directed: provided always, that no greater amount shall be so paid in any year than after the rate of *sixpence* in the pound of the rateable value of the property rated in such parish.

XVIII. By the rules of any school to be authorized by the said Education Committee, or to be established by them or under their authority, or to be assisted by them or by their authority with any grant of money, or to be established or aided under this Act, it shall be required that the Holy Scriptures shall be read in such school as a part of the reading therein, but not so as to be used as a school lesson book; and it shall also be required that no child of any parents professing the Roman Catholic or the Jewish religion shall be obliged to be present at the reading of the Holy Scriptures, unless such parents or the guardians of such child are willing that such child should be so present: provided always, that this enactment shall not extend to any Roman Catholic or Jewish school.

XIX. By the rules of any school to be authorized by the said Education Committee, or to be established by them or under their authority, or to be assisted by them or by their authority with any grant of money, or to be established or aided under this Act, it shall be required that no catechism shall be taught to, nor Liturgy used by, or attendance on church or other religious observance required of, any child of any parents of any Protestant Dissenting persuasion, or of the Roman Catholic or Jewish persuasion, unless such parents or the guardians of such child are willing that such child should be taught such catechism, or use such Liturgy, or attend such church or other religious observance.

XX. The council of any borough and the vestry of any parish acting under this Act shall have, by themselves, or by such school committee or other committee as they may appoint, the entire management, direction, and superintendence of the schools to be established or aided under this Act by such council or vestry, subject to the rights of any trustees or special visitors of any such schools; but all schools established or aided under this act shall be subject to the inspection of any inspectors appointed by the said Education Committee.

XXI. The said Education Committee may at any time make an order recalling any order approving any scheme under this Act, stating the reasons for such recall; and after such order of recall, the provisions of this Act respecting the council or vestry, and the schools established or aided by them, shall cease and determine.

XXII. For the purposes of this Act, the word "borough" shall include any city, town, or other place, subject to the provisions of the said Act of the fifth and sixth years of King William the Fourth; and the word "parish" shall include every place separately maintaining its own poor.

Postscript.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

ADMIRALTY, February 13, 1855.—A despatch has been received from Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, of which the following is an extract:—

Agamemnon, off Sebastopol, Jan. 27, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to report, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that since my last general letter of the 23rd inst. (No. 66) the weather has been particularly fine. The health of the army has been much benefited by the change. A good deal of progress has been made in putting the troops and distributing the clothing which has been so liberally sent out from England—so that the men express themselves as being comfortable.

2. The health of the Fleet and of the Naval Brigade is excellent. The men are well supplied with fresh meat and vegetables, and also with oranges sent from Malta by Rear-Admiral Stewart.

3. The fire from the batteries of the Allies has increased during the last week, and that of the enemy has not slackened. New guns have been mounted in our batteries during the last four days.

4. On the 24 instant I passed the day at Balaklava to superintend the service going on there, and to make inquiries and examine into matters connected with the duties of the port and the transport service. I met Lord Raglan there, by appointment, and we made some arrangements which will, I trust, have a beneficial effect.—I have, &c.

(Signed)

R. C. LYONS,

Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty.

BERLIN, Tuesday.—A despatch from St. Petersburg, dated yesterday, announces that nothing particular had taken place before Sebastopol, except a sortie on the night of the 31st of January, in which the Russians took three officers and seven men prisoners.

The *Kreuz Zeitung* of Berlin announces that Austria is resolved to renew her demand for the mobilisation of the Federal army at present ordered to be made ready for war. In that case she will further press for the election of a Federal Commander-in-Chief. Prussia will oppose this measure, and will also endeavour to obtain from the Diet a vote forbidding the presence of foreign armed troops (a French *corps d'armée*) within the territory of the Bund.

The King of Hanover is hastening on military preparations; and letters from Vienna state that he has empowered Baron de Stockhausen to conclude a separate treaty with Austria. Brunswick and Nassau have also sent declarations on that point of a very satisfactory character for the Austrian Cabinet.

THE WEATHER AND THE PARKS.

The various Parks yesterday presented the appearance of fairs. The thermometer at the Royal Humane Society's receiving-house in Hyde Park, during the night of Monday, fell as low again as 23 deg., being 9 deg. below freezing point. Yesterday morning the quicksilver rose to 25 deg., and even at noon it rose no higher than 27 deg., being then 5 deg. below freezing point. Towards 7 o'clock in the evening the mercury commenced to fall rapidly, indicating a continuance of the present severe weather. The barometer stood at 29.42. The wind, which was north-east, was piercingly cold, and was accompanied by slight snow-storms.

The Thames, above Richmond, is completely frozen over, and no craft, even of the smallest description, can either pass up or down the river. As low down as Blackfriars-bridge a large surface of the water was yesterday covered with ice, on the upper side, to the width of two of the centre arches, which extended many yards from the piers of the bridge.

A MARE'S NEST.

(From the *Globe*.)

The *Morning Herald* contains the following from a correspondent:—"The vacant office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster was intended by Lord Palmerston for the Earl of Shaftesbury. It was actually offered by the Premier to the noble earl, and was accepted by him. It was offered with a seat in the Cabinet attached, and Lord Shaftesbury had actually assented to the wish of the Prime Minister that he should join his Administration, with possession of the seals of the duchy. After the arrangement had been, as it was thought, finally concluded, a peremptory vote was placed upon the appointment by some members of the Cabinet. It is confidently stated that Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Sidney Herbert remonstrated in the strongest terms against it. They assigned as their reason the incompatibility of the well-known opinions of the noble earl upon religious questions with their own views upon such subjects, and threatened resignation if the appointment were persisted in. Lord Palmerston was compelled to yield; and, after the appointment had been actually made, it was cancelled, in obedience to the Pusyite tendencies of the two right hon. gentlemen who now rule the Cabinet over which Lord Palmerston has condescended nominally to preside."

When we assure our contemporary that there is not the most remote foundation for any portion of the above statement, we doubt not that he will thank us for exposing the falsehood of the correspondent who has so much abused his credulity.

We have much pleasure in stating that, on the nomination of his Royal Highness Prince Albert, Lord Dundonald was recently elected an Honorary Elder Brother of the Corporation of the Trinity-house.—*Times*.

We believe that Lord Goderich will succeed Mr. Lowe as Secretary of the Board of Control. Mr. Lowe resigned office upon the accession of the present Ministry. No appointment has, we believe, been yet made in the room of Mr. Peel as Under-Secretary for the Colonies.—*Times*.

CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, Wednesday, Feb. 14, 1855.

The trade in Mark-lane to-day very quiet, prices as on Monday.

Arrivals this week.—Wheat, English, 1,110 qrs.; Foreign, 920 qrs. Barley, English, 1,340 qrs. Oats, English, 820 qrs.; Foreign, 280 qrs. Flour, English, 430 sacks.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"E. L."—We appreciate his good opinion, and should be sorry to lose it. But we can only repeat, we do our best to form impartial judgments upon consenting testimonies: and if we happen to agree with the *Times*, we must be content with our company. On the points of detail mentioned, may not *As* also be mistaken?

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1855.

SUMMARY.

We have again a Government—this time last week, we had only a Premier. The understanding with his late colleagues on which Lord Palmerston accepted that high office, has been so far carried out that the front bench in either House will be occupied in its whole length by the day of reassembling. In the Lords, the Earl of Granville takes the place of Aberdeen, Lord Panmure the place of Newcastle, and Viscount Canning represents the Post-office. It has been asserted, with immense impressiveness, that the Earl of Shaftesbury was invited, and had consented, to take his seat in the same row,—but that the Puseyite supporters of the nondescript Palmerston positively refused to sit with the Evangelical earl; a story highly improbable in all its parts. From the front bench of the Commons' right, will be missed only Lord John Russell. The expected Layard, it seems, keeps his place below the gangway—Mr. Frederick Peel taking the War-office post which common consent and poetical justice assigned to the critic of the *Agamemnon*. On the second bench, only one notable change will be visible. Robert Lowe vacates his place behind Sir Charles Wood, and is succeeded by Lord Goderich—an appointment which may be owing to the Premier's kindly recollections of an early colleague, and will undoubtedly reinforce his waning popularity with the working-men.

The constituencies will interpose not even an hour's delay to the prosecution of the public service. The electors of Tiverton are proud of the opportunity to return their representative without the usual hustings' faciliæ. Mr. Sidney Herbert, exchanging the Secretaryship of a department for a Secretaryship of State, presents himself to the electors of South Wilts; and will be troubled at most to return thanks. Of course, no intimation of the new policy is to be detected in the addresses;—but it may be remarked that while Mr. Herbert speaks only of the determination of her Majesty's Government to "use every effort," etc.,—the Premier balances against the "powerful adversary" our "powerful and faithful ally," a form of expression which rather sharpens the point of Lord Derby's compliment to Lord Palmerston on his confidential relations with Louis Napoleon.

The speech in which this antithesis to Lord John's famous certificate of Lord Palmerston's patriotism was administered, was made on Thursday, among the ministerial explanations. The new leader of the House, and the new Minister of War, spoke—the one for his colleagues, the other for himself; but neither said aught that can be remembered. The Earl of Derby accounted for his failure to honour the royal commission, with a flippancy offensive to the country, and a vaunting indifference that may well anger his followers. The Earl of Malmesbury revealed how little was to be hoped from his party in the way of army reform, by a ludicrous attempt to disprove the preponderance of the aristocracy in the service. The Marquis of Lansdowne uttered those "reflections appropriate to the crisis" which are his expected contribution to a ministerial resettlement.

On the same evening, and again at noon of the next day, the Commons held short sittings, at which votes of credit were taken; and the condition of the army was the principal topic of conversation;—Mr. Gladstone repeating statements that are contradicted by every non-official despatch by every mail, but declining to state publicly the grounds of his unique belief,—and Lord John Russell feebly attempting to reconcile differences measured by some twenty thousand, with good words for all parties but the one by whom alone the truth has been made known, the "ribald press;"—an epithet which, if the press forgives, it deserves to wear. This may possibly be Lord John's last appearance in the House,—he having been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to Vienna, where the conferences open on the 23rd. That he may prove the messenger of peace, if the thing least to be expected, is certainly the most to be desired.



What to do with the motion whose name they have given them a new term of office, is to be a matter of perplexity, and, it is said, of little doubt that a formal vote to get it rescinded, as informal and already reported. It is

alleged that persuasions addressed to the patriotism of members, are backed by threats of a dissolution. That event may not be thus near, but it is the probable alternative of remoter Ministerial differences with the House; and constituencies should not be unprepared for so grave an addition to the burden of public responsibility.

Happily, the burden is making itself felt. Meetings in our principal towns and districts are of almost daily occurrence,—and are even instigated by the *Times*, which usually displays a journalistic jealousy of platform influence. The people must speak out, if the Parliament is to be kept right or the Administration to be really improved,—that is now the admission and the warning of our great Conservative contemporary. It is observable that so far as the people have yet spoken, they mingle denunciations of the misdirection of the war with denunciations of its misconduct. The foreign policy of which Lord Palmerston is the detected personification, is in truth scarce less unpopular than the administrative incapacity of which the Duke of Newcastle is the involuntary representative and victim. Mr. Bright has made another effort, at a meeting of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, to turn the public feeling into a pacific channel. Impressive, even to solemnity, as was his exhibition of the evils of war, we doubt if it will prove influential. Suspected of exaggeration from the very position of the speaker, it at the same time appeals to sentiments of which Englishmen are not readily susceptible. The retrieval of our prestige, the repair of our disasters, is the first and overmastering thought of the national mind. And though Mr. Lindsay be engaged by the French Emperor to render him the service far better rendered to us,—and Mr. Peto be rewarded for the service of his railway corps, involving his own political retirement, with only a baronetcy,—the public refuse to despair of being better served in future than heretofore.

We may, for the first time these many weeks, reserve for one paragraph, and that the last, our news from the Crimea. It is of decidedly a better complexion. Official despatches and private letters concur in representing the more kindly aspect of the skies as responded to by renewed activity and less painful conditions in the camp. A conference between Lord Raglan and the new Admiral in command, has resulted in the reduction of Balaklava disorder, the forwarding of supplies, and the instantly improved health of the troops. Still, terrible was the amount of suffering and mortality up to the beginning of the last week in January, both in camp and in the hospitals. Latest accounts from Scutari report a diminution in the number of deaths. The £10,000 fund is well nigh exhausted, but has been instantly replenished by subscriptions at home. A winter campaign only surpassed in horrors by that of Moscow, we may now hope to weather. But spring will bring with its milder air and firmer soil, perils of its own,—a recruited enemy, and the germination of thick sown seeds of pestilence. Well may the gallant men who have survived this terrible ordeal, divide their aspirations between peace and victory!

THE PALMERSTON ADMINISTRATION.

AFTER ten days *interregnum*, the country finds itself with a reconstructed Coalition Cabinet under the premiership of Lord Palmerston. The personal changes are few. Lord John Russell, Lord Aberdeen, and the Duke of Newcastle retire—Lord Panmure, Lord Canning, and, perhaps, Mr. Cardwell, have seats in the Cabinet—Sir George Grey goes from the Colonial to the Home Office, Mr. Sidney Herbert from the War Office to the Colonial, Lord Granville to his old post of President of the Council, and Lord Palmerston to the goal of his ambition, as first lord of the Treasury. There is a better cast of parts than before—but the elements are pretty nearly the same. In Parliament and out of it the Cabinet starts with more popularity than has recently been enjoyed by its predecessor—but there seems no sufficient reason for expecting that its career will be much more successful. The country, we soberly believe, is doomed to disappointment—but if so, it will have none but itself to blame, for, in the present instance, it might "walk by sight" if it would but manfully open its eyes.

Let us look at the matter calmly and without prejudice, for we have ceased to have faith in political conjuring. The last Ministry were overturned by a crushing majority, on account of gross mismanagement somewhere in our war administration. It is, of course, expected that under the leadership of Lord Palmerston, and the military administration of Lord Panmure, this mismanagement will cease. We sincerely wish it may. It is our fervent desire that they may succeed beyond all rational hope in rescuing the shattered remnant of our army in the Crimea from the extinction which seems to await it. But we confess we look about in vain for any solid foundation on which to build so pleasing a hope.

In the first place, we more than doubt the qualifications of Lord Palmerston for leading the country through an awful crisis like the present. No one can deny that he has vivacity remarkable for his years. In discourse he is nimble, dexterous, and irrepressibly gay. Of political information he has an accumulated store ever ready for use. He is an agile and quick-witted diplomatist, better able than most men to balance himself on the edge of war. He has courage, too—or, at least, a laughing recklessness of consequences which much resembles it. But it seems to us that he has never yet displayed the instinct to command. He has no seriousness—no depth—no earnestness of purpose—no indomitable energy of will. He does not brood. He resembles summer lightning, lambent, vivid, incessant, but never forked. He has left upon the politics of his country no indelible traces of his power. He is now seventy years of age, and nearly forty of them have been spent in office—but where shall we look for an enduring monument of his genius? Well, he is called with acclamation to head the British people in a terrible emergency. We will not conclude that under that gay and jaunty exterior there may not have slept a soul capable of great deeds—but we have no proof, no indication, that there has. The noble lord was one of a Cabinet condemned for its inaptitude. Could he have sat with his colleagues through the recent period of disasters without making his power felt, if power he really possesses? Would not his ruling will have burst through the trammels of official etiquette, and vivified the slumbering mass? Could a great man have held important office in the last Administration without making his greatness seen? It is easy to say he was thwarted—but would any man confident of his power to rule have submitted to silence and inaction whilst his country was visibly drifting to humiliation, and, possibly, ruin? Lord Palmerston we say, is no untried adventurer—he has had opportunity, and has failed.

Then look at the materials with which he has to work. The great defect of the Aberdeen Administration in relation to the war was a want of unity of purpose. Is that remedied by reconstruction? Not in the least. There is still internal incompatibility—still a nicely adjusted balance of parties—still a wide difference as to the very principles of a war policy. Can Lord Palmerston, by the intensity of his will, fuse these heterogeneous sections, and make them act as one? Or if not, has he strength enough to throw off what is discordant with his own views, and attract towards himself a better and more congenial staff of colleagues? Present appearances do not augur for the probability of it. He has given the world no token of his superiority to the narrow prejudices of his class. He seems scarcely to have looked beyond the charmed circle of aristocratic rulers. He has preferred pedigrees to abilities—he has been more observant of dull routine, than of unpatronised genius. Perhaps, he will venture on a dissolution of Parliament—but has he a *programme*? And if not, will the people respond in confidence to his appeal? Will it suffice that he promises "to carry on the war with vigour," if he throws the shield of his protection over palpable delinquency, and refuses to track our present disasters to their cause? We judge not. We believe the country are too deeply in earnest to be dazzled by the talismanic influence of a name, and would return a House pledged to see the country well served at any cost of personal predilections. Our suspicion is that the present cabinet, no less than the last, is devoid of a well defined and far reaching purpose, and that Lord Palmerston is not the man to breathe into it a heroic spirit.

The substitution of Lord Panmure for the Duke of Newcastle, and the consolidation in his hands of the military and financial departments of war administration, is a change the advantage of which nothing but results can prove. The noble lord, when Mr. Fox Maule, showed himself a laborious administrator as Secretary-at-War, and, within certain bounds, a military reformer. It is possible that if his precarious health does not speedily break down under the pressure of enormous responsibility and care, he may do something to educe order out of chaos. He has firmness of determination, and, it is said, can face disagreeable duties. But industry and inflexibility are not the only qualifications requisite in a war minister at the present crisis. What is needed above all is a genius for organization—a constructive talent that shall build up a machine capable of regulation, to its minutest wheel, by a single presiding mind. Here, in part, was the cause of the Duke of Newcastle's failure. He worked night and day with a zeal which does him infinite honour—but in the manner of a journeyman rather than a master; whereas the post requires a head for cutting out and superintending work—a faculty of economising labour by previous arrangements, nice combinations, and inventive sagacity. Whether Lord Panmure is up to the level of what his post requires is a question upon which we should be

reluctant to pronounce an opinion. Rumour, which is sometimes instinct with envy, attributes to him a bureaucratic spirit. If he has not in him something far higher—if he is merely a diligent servant of official routine—if, in short, he has neither genius of his own, nor is willing to call in the genius of other men to his aid—he had far better have declined the task committed to his trust.

The more narrowly we scrutinise the elements of the Palmerston Administration, the less confidence do we feel disposed to place in its stability. An awkward question lies at its very threshold, and will at once test its sagacity, self-command, and patriotism. Upon this subject we have spoken more at large in the article below. The condemnation of the last Ministry was this—that although everything went wrong nobody lost his place. The present ministry have no claim to urge “let by-gones be by-gones”—for inquiry and punishment are necessary, not in revenge for the past, but as some guarantee for the future. If the country, in seeking this reasonable satisfaction, shall find the Palmerston Administration insensible to the obvious claims of the case, to the honour and dignity of the Commons, and to the known wishes of the people, it will shatter the present Cabinet as completely, and with as little ceremony, as it did its predecessor. Not even the noble member for Tiverton's European popularity will avail to save it. And when at length the notables fail, the nobodies will have to try their hand.

WHY THE INQUIRY SHOULD PROCEED.

LORD PALMERSTON finds in an old friend a first difficulty. Mr. Roebuck converted for him, in 1850, the censure of the Peers into an ovation from the Commons. Mr. Roebuck's motion of the 26th destroyed his colleagues only to exalt him. But that motion is like the bent sapling to which Indian hunters tie their slaughtered game—springing back, it lifts the animal out of the reach of wolves and bears; but would strangle it if it were not already dead. The lever that has lifted Palmerston to the Premiership also holds him over a committee of inquiry—a seething furnace, the very smell of which scorches the official garments.

The Peelite section of the Cabinet—a significantly numerous section, by the bye—is understood to insist on resisting the appointment of that committee of inquiry into the condition of our army in the Crimea, which the House of Commons resolved, by a majority of more than two to one, should be appointed. The Whigs are bound—if bound at all—by the language of their late chief, to support the inquiry. The Premier may safely be conjectured to intend “casting himself on the House”—which will be tantamount to asking that the resolution be rescinded. The Ministerial organs industriously reason by anticipation in support of that modest request. We, on our part, are as urgent as ever for inquiry—and that it be made prompt, searching, and independent;—not overriding, indeed, the obvious, present necessities of the public service,—but covering the whole extent, and probing to the very bottom, of that human slough which stretches from Balaklava to Sebastopol.

In justice to all constitutional theories—we might say to all moral sense—we demand that the inquiry do proceed. When wrong is done, there is harshly struck a chord in the human breast which will not cease to jar until the wrong-doer be detected and punished. And whenever misery is witnessed, wrong-doing is assumed. An instinct, swift but sure as any possessed by man or beast, scents the connexion between suffering and sin, and makes the unpunished sinner the enemy of his kind. It is the condemnation of false systems of government that they make little or no provision for the working of this godlike sentiment;—that they leave to the sagacity and integrity of an autocrat or an oligarchy, offices in which the poorest have the deepest interest, and which every man can best discharge upon his neighbour. It was a rule of our ancient Saxon law to hold every hundred men accountable for the misdoings of any one of their number. The spirit of that requirement survives in trial by jury and in government by representation. The constitution places in the hands of the House of Commons the awful power of withholding supplies on purpose that it may exert a real responsibility. The work of making laws and voting money is not more important than the supervision of administration and expenditure. Nevertheless, the Commons have so neglected this latter branch of their prerogative—have so long permitted to lie an idle bauble, this true “rod of empire”—have so deferred to aristocratic influences the most precious of popular interests—as to have brought opprobrium on representative institutions. Napoleon would break a marshal's baton on the field—Nicholas degraded a late Governor of Sebastopol to the garb and drudgery of a convict—but England has seen armies perish without caring to “ask the reason why.” A writer in the *North British Review* (the *Times* has anticipated us in the quo-

tation, but not in the intention of its use) reminds us that no account has yet been rendered of our Afghan disasters—a victorious army of seventeen thousand cut off almost to a man:—

If, through the stupidity, or the ignorance, or the rashness, or the ill-temper, or the false shame of a superior officer, English soldiers are uselessly massacred,—if, through the folly or the timidity of another, they are kept disgracefully in reserve,—if men are ordered to form square when they ought to charge, or to retreat when there is no salvation for them but in advancing,—if they are left without orders, because the officer who ought to give them has lost his presence of mind and self-command,—those who appointed these incompetent functionaries do not see the results of their appointments, do not hear of them for weeks, frequently do not hear of them at all. If they do hear of them, they may suffer remorse, but they escape punishment, often, indeed, blame. On whom has the ignominy of the appointment which produced the calamities of Cabul fallen? On no one. Who is responsible for retaining in high commands men who, be it their fault, or be it their misfortune, escape from services of danger because they have lost the confidence of their superiors and of their subordinates, and are not employed by the one, because they might not be obeyed by the others? Who is responsible for the appointments which have endangered our army in the Crimea, and which, in contingencies from which Heaven protect us, may ruin it? Who is ultimately responsible for the inaction of our fleet, during the battle of the Alma, when the port of Sebastopol was still open, and those who ought to have manned its ships and its batteries were miles away, swelling Menschikoff's forces? Who placed it in hands that had not enterprise enough at least to steam towards the mouth of the harbour, to feel their way, and, if it was found, as it probably would have been found, insufficiently defended, to enter? Who is ultimately responsible for keeping our army, for two days after the battle, employed in burying the dead, and attending to the wounded, instead of landing seamen and marines for a service, important, indeed necessary, but not such as a victorious army, with the prize of the campaign within its reach, ought, when the thing might have been as well done by others, to have been detained to perform?

To rescind Mr. Roebuck's motion—to delegate the inquiry to a Government commission—to forbear the torture of interrogation because aristocracy and bureaucracy shudder—would be to proclaim that representative government in England is effete, to award impunity to any heartlessness or absurdity that is perpetrated on system, and to warn the people that no inquiry will be made for wanton bloodshed or wasted treasure.

It is said,—and we regret that it can be said with plausibility,—that Mr. Roebuck's motion was carried by the House of Commons simply that the late Ministry might be destroyed. It was, at least, supported in this journal simply that the army might be saved. We should have been all the better pleased if, by the same means, Ministers had been vindicated. The success of the motion was not, in our view, nor we venture to say, in the view of the nation, an ultimate object. That Ministers resisted it was unfortunate for them—we are not sure it was for the gain of the country. Investigation was demanded. The Aberdeen Government refused it, and was overthrown. Investigation is still demanded—if the language of public meetings and independent newspapers be a test of public feeling. The Palmerston Cabinet must concede it,—or it, too, will be overthrown. Every day that it is delayed brings fresh proofs of its necessity. If the services are not without honour, they will themselves demand it. The suspicion of flagrant dishonesty is now superadded to the conviction of incapacity and indifference. The green berries served out to the troops in lieu of cups of coffee, are telling upon the public mind as the metal buttons of a man's coat are said to have told against the perpetrator of a murder. The worst of the truth leaks out through a little crack. Whether a soldier have to grind his coffee or have it ready ground, may seem a trifling difference in the conditions of a campaign three thousand miles from home; but when it is seen to make the difference between a warm meal after a night in the wet trenches, and no meal at all—the difference between an army in health, and an army in the hospital—above all, the difference between the sale and the delivery of nearly a hundred thousand pounds of one article,—it becomes a question to destroy a Government, and even a “system.” Who contracted to supply the coffee, roasted and ground,—who sent green berries instead,—who pocketed the difference in price?—these are questions which it becomes all commissariat and treasury officials, with a character for honesty, forthwith to solve. The promised committee can hardly fail to extract the answers, however ingeniously reluctant the witnesses. The question is a fair specimen of the sort of questions that have to be asked,—and the witnesses of the sort of men to be summoned; leaving Lord Raglan (for that matter) at head-quarters, and Commissary-General Filder to avail himself of the new railway. The neighbourhood of Whitehall may furnish witnesses enough for the present, at any rate,—and their answers may possibly assist Lord Panmure to hints for the new system. An inquiry so facile, yet invaluable—demanded by such solemn necessities, and opening the way to such incalculable improvement—shall it not proceed? The fate of yet another Government may be the least of the interests suspended on the reply.

AT IT AGAIN!

MR. GLADSTONE's retention of the office he has so adorned as to make almost popular, gives renewed assurance that the abolition of the newspaper stamp is at hand. This event, so long desired and well fought-for, could not, indeed, be far off, whoever Mr. Gladstone's successor—seeing that Mr. Disraeli and Lord Stanley are eager abolitionists; while Milner Gibson might decide a division. But Gladstone has a business hand and a masterful will—what he undertakes, he does; and therefore, the resolutions on which he asks the House to go into committee, are as good as carried.

But though opposition be hopeless, grumbling appears to some of our contemporaries not undignified. One no less respected than the *Examiner* utters this week a sharp sustained growl, which is duly echoed by the *Times* and *Chronicle*, and will doubtless as duly be reverberated by the *Dispatch*. The *Examiner* finds time “even in the suspense and collapse of a ‘crisis,’” to protest against “a measure of finance” which it refuses to discuss as simply such, but as “vital affecting the respectability and independence of the press.” Our contemporary is unjust to himself. The addition of a penny to the price of his ably written sheet could scarcely deduct from the number of his readers, in a country where the style and spirit of Defoe are still appreciated—what then has he to fear from the removal of an involuntary penny? Surely not the rivalry of journals on the model he so scornfully describes.

The gist of his argument and the pithiest of his illustrations we find in the following paragraph:—

The existing newspaper stamp does not operate restrictively except so far as sound policy may warrant in a case which is not one of ordinary merchandise. On this head we entertain no doubt whatever. The attempt so to represent it broke down before the committee of the House of Commons. Not all the noise and agitation made about it has succeeded in creating, outside the House, the impression that it is anything in reality more burdensome than a small payment for a valuable service. To the penny payable for letter postage, as was justly remarked before the committee, precisely the same objections are applicable on the ground of inequality; and it may be denounced as a hardship, that a note containing three lines, sent by post from Fleet-street to the Strand, should pay as much for carriage as a note containing three hundred lines conveyed from Aberdeen to Truro. Nothing would be easier than to denounce the penny postage as an onerous and unequal tax. And it is far more justly to be called an impost upon the public than the newspaper stamp, for the conveyance of letters yields revenue to the State, while the conveyance of stamped newspapers is undertaken at a loss. The newspaper stamp as now imposed, in short, and which Mr. Gladstone has shown such readiness to remove, falls with so little of the character of a tax upon the public, that it is strictly a small bonus paid to it out of the revenue, for the sake of that free diffusion and interchange of knowledge upon political and social affairs which is nothing less than essential to the steady progress of a country ruled by the opinions prevalent among its people.

On the first of these sentences we beg to remark,—that if any description of commerce should not be exempted from the rules of “ordinary merchandise,” which is the rule of free-trade, it is surely the commerce in ideas. Only as that traffic is unrestricted, is the article likely to be cheap and good; restriction positively tending to convert the article into what is noxious as well as dear. That there is “restriction” is admitted—but where is “the sound policy?” It consists, replies our friend, in this—I am enabled to send my journal through the post as often as I please for a penny; and my journal contains none but sound doctrine. But I,—another man may say,—print a journal which I do not post, and yet must pay the penny. Pool! rejoins the first speaker,—that is no more a hardship than is the equal charge of a penny for carrying a letter unequal distances. We beg to suggest that it more nearly resembles the suppression of letter-writing altogether, except for postal purposes. It would surely be “a hardship” to be taxed a penny for writing the three lines of invitation to dinner which we send next door by our servant. That is precisely how the case stands between the advocates and the opponents of the stamp.

Very possibly journals of equal age and respectability with the *Examiner*, but of less vigour and reputation, may find a decrease in their circulation, consequent on the establishment of cheap local journals. The *Gateshead Observer* frankly points out half a dozen towns within its own circuit where this may be done. Were there a morning journal of equal daring with the *Observer*, it might name half a dozen populous places which should each have a penny daily. We believe this will be a public advantage—but we refuse to debate the question on that ground. We stand up, as Milton did, “for the liberty of unlicensed printing.”

Thus put, the question is level to the lowest capacity—“Right versus Interest.” Some honourable men, but unconsciously biased to the dishonourable side, may be expected to be “at it again,” even till the Stamp Abolition Bill is law. But let the friends of public and personal right also be “at it again”—first, in Exeter Hall, next Wednesday; afterwards, by petition and private admonition, till the victory be not only safe but complete.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

The following is the most perfect list of the new Government which has transpired up to this time:—

First Lord of the Treasury	Viscount Palmerston
Lord Chancellor	Lord Cairns
Is the Cabinet, without an office	Marquis of Lansdowne
President of the Council	Earl Granville
Privy Seal	The Duke of Argyll
Home Secretary	Sir G. Grey
Foreign Secretary	Earl of Clarendon
Colonial Secretary	Right Hon. S. Herbert
Minister for War	Lord Panmure
Chancellor of the Exchequer ..	Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone
First Lord of the Admiralty ..	Sir J. Graham
Postmaster-General	Viscount Canning
President of Board of Control ..	Sir C. Wood
Public Works	Sir W. Molesworth
The above form the Cabinet.	
President of Board of Trade ..	Right Hon. E. Cardwell
Vice-President	Lord Sturtevant of Alderley
Judge Advocate	Right Hon. C. P. Villiers
Financial Secretary of Treasury	J. Wilson, Esq.
Parliamentary Sec. of Treasury	Right Hon. W. G. Hatter
Junior Lords of the Treasury ..	Lord Elcho, Lord A. Harvy, and C. Portman, Esq.
Under Sec. of the Home-office ..	Hon. H. Pitt-Rivers
Under Sec. of the Foreign-office ..	Ed. Woodhouse, or Mr. Layard
Under Sec. of Colonial Office ..	Lord Woodhouse, or Mr. Layard
Under Secretary for War	F. Park, Esq.
Secretary to the Admiralty	A. Gordon, Esq.
Secretary to the Board of Control	Lord Gordon vice Mr. Lowe, resigned.
President of the Poor Law Board ..	Right Hon. M. Stansfeld
Secretary to the Poor Law Board ..	G. Stansfeld, Esq.
President of the Board of Health ..	Right Hon. Sir B. Hall

Respecting the formation of the new Ministry, the *Standard* says:—

Lord Canning does not leave his post, but his having a seat in the Cabinet is new, and it will give further strength in council. We place the last name where the reader sees it, because, although Mr. Cardwell did not take his seat at the Cabinet yesterday, it has been said, with great probability, that he is to be added to the Cabinet. Such an arrangement is desirable. As a man of business, Mr. Cardwell would often be useful. A free trade ministry ought to be helped just now, above all times—when free-trade alliance is the grand compensator for war interruptions—by the advice of its chief trade minister. And questions of commerce arise directly out of the relations with allies, the enemy, and neutrals. On every account the Cabinet ought to include Mr. Cardwell.

With respect to the Ministers not in the Cabinet, there seems to be some uncertainty. No Chancellor has yet been provided for the Duchy of Lancaster. Sir John Young has been mentioned to succeed Sir Henry Ward as Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, and Lord Elcho as likely to succeed him in the Irish Secretaryship. Mr. Layard has been mentioned as the newly-created Under-Secretary for War; but the appointment has not yet been made. It is understood that some considerations have had to be weighed respecting the number of Under-Secretaries in either House; and that Mr. Layard himself did not meet the offer with immediate and unconditional acceptance.

It was reported last week that Lord Grey had refused to join the Government: we have reason to know that this statement was untrue, and that, in fact, Lord Grey had not been invited. It is understood, however, that he will give to the new War Minister all the aid of his experience and special knowledge respecting the administration and organization of the military departments.

The first Cabinet Council of the new Ministry was held on Friday afternoon at the Foreign-office, Downing-street. It was attended by Viscount Palmerston, the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, Sir George Grey, the Earl of Clarendon, the Right Hon. Sydney Herbert, Lord Panmure, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Charles Wood, Sir William Molesworth, and Viscount Canning. The Council sat three hours. A second Council was held on Saturday which also sat three hours. The same members were present. On Monday, also, there was Cabinet Council at the residence of Sir James Graham in the Admiralty, and sat for three hours and a-half.

Respecting the new War Department, the *Observer* says:—"The two cabinet offices of Secretary of State for War and Secretary at War are now combined, and entrusted to the experienced direction of Lord Panmure, who holds both offices, and directs both departments, until the Legislature shall be able to mature a plan for the consolidation of the whole of the military system. In holding these two offices it is scarcely necessary to add that Lord Panmure will receive only the salary of one. The only other appointment decided upon is that of Mr. Frederick Peel, who removes from the Under-Secretaryship of the Colonial to that of the War Department. To him will be entrusted the financial business of the department, which he will conduct in the office in Whitehall lately occupied by Mr. Sidney Herbert. He will prepare the estimates for Parliament, and answer in the House of Commons for the War-office, where the general business will be conducted under the able superintendence of Mr. Herbert."

Lord Panmure has appointed as his private secretary Mr. George Dalhousie Ramsay, of the War-office, who has been acting as private secretary to Mr. Sidney Herbert. Mr. Charles Cavendish Clifford, who was Lord Palmerston's private secretary at the Home-office, continues his lordship's private secretary. Lord Robert accompanies Sir G. Grey from the Colonial to the Home-office in the same capacity.

No re-election will be necessary in the case of Sir George Grey. He retains the office of one of her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and his transfer from one department to another is merely a matter of assignment, and not a new appointment, involving the loss of his seat in Parliament.

The *Morning Advertiser* of Thursday asserts that the Peelites had a meeting at Sir J. Graham's on the preceding Sunday, and determined on refusing to accept office under Lord Palmerston, unless Lord Aberdeen was appointed president of the Council. Lord Palmerston intimated in reply, in the plainest terms, that if the Peelites refused to join him on that condition, he could and would form a Cabinet without them. The Peelites then agreed they would join if he admitted Lord Canning and Mr. Cardwell. Lord Palmerston ultimately consented to give Lord Canning along a seat. The party, acting under the advice of the Duke of Newcastle, assented, and the crisis terminated.

It is no longer a secret (says the *Daily News*) that, in the course of the afternoon of the day on which Lord Derby offered to coalesce with Mr. Gladstone and Lord Palmerston, a considerable number of the most influential and independent of his so-called followers being apprised of the fact, hesitated not to declare their insurmountable repugnance to the consummation of any such bargain. They were content to remain in opposition, but they would not, at the whirl of a conjuror's wand, abjure consistency and honour, or at the bidding of their nimble chief, vote confidence in men whom he said they had for eight long years, on every question of vital moment, declared that they could not confide in. Lord Derby does not live so very far from the Carlton that the murmurs of rising mutiny should not have reached him as he sat at home that afternoon, building his ministerial house of cards. But he flattered himself, no doubt, that he had done the galliards; and that he could afford to laugh at the rage of the poor earnest dupes who had followed him so long. We should like to have seen his look—we should not like to have heard his first exclamation—when he received the cool "rather not" of Lord Palmerston. There was nothing to be done but to throw up the game.

NEW ELECTIONS.

The nomination of a candidate to represent the borough of Tiverton, in consequence of the vacancy caused by Lord Palmerston's acceptance of the office of First Lord of the Treasury, took place on Monday, at 12 o'clock, in the Town-hall. The committee for ensuring the noble lord's return had, in consideration of the present state of public affairs, passed a resolution to the effect that they would undertake to re-elect Lord Palmerston. His lordship, therefore, was not present. There was no display of any kind, nor any ebullition of political feeling worthy of notice. The Mayor (Mr. F. Hole) presided, and introduced the business in a brief address. After the usual preliminaries, Mr. J. H. Amory, in proposing Viscount Palmerston as a fit and proper person to represent the borough in parliament, observed that in asking the meeting to elect the noble lord, he was asking them to elect a man whom every shade of political party could honestly and fairly support. Lord Palmerston, now Prime Minister of England, was the man to whom they all looked at the present moment to bring the war in which this country was engaged to a successful conclusion. Mr. W. Hole (a magistrate of the borough) seconded the nomination. The Mayor inquired if there was any other candidate, and no one responding in the affirmative, he declared the noble lord re-elected. Three cheers were then given right heartily for the Queen, for Lord Palmerston, Mr. Amory, and Mr. Hole; for the Emperor of France and the gallant French army; and for the press of England. The meeting having then given three decided groans for the Czar, separated with a vote of thanks to the Mayor. The following is the noble lord's address to the electors announcing his appointment as Prime Minister:—

TO THE ELECTORS OF TIVERTON.

144, Piccadilly, February 8, 1855.

Gentlemen,—The Queen having been graciously pleased to confer upon me the office of First Lord of the Treasury, my seat in the House of Commons has become vacant; and I again solicit at your hands a continuance of that confidence on your part which I have now for so long a period had the honour to enjoy.

I am fully sensible of the deep responsibility which attaches to the high post in which her Majesty has been pleased to command my services; and no effort shall be wanting on my part for the due performance of the important duties which have thus devolved upon me.

To promote the welfare and prosperity of this great nation, must at all times be the anxious study of those to whose hands may be committed the management of its affairs; but, at the present moment, the task is beset with difficulties which require proportionate exertions.

This country has been compelled to engage in war, for objects which the judgment of the nation has declared to be of sufficient magnitude and importance to render necessary the exertions and sacrifices which that war may require. We are contending against a powerful adversary, but we are contending in concert with a powerful and faithful ally; and I confidently hope that the spirit and energy of the British people will triumph over all difficulties, and that by vigorous exertions in war we shall attain that end which is the object of all just war—a safe and honourable peace.—I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,

PALMERSTON.

The following is the address of the new Secretary of State, the Right Hon. S. Herbert:—

TO THE ELECTORS FOR THE SOUTHERN DIVISION OF THE COUNTY OF WILTS.

Gentlemen,—Lord Palmerston has been called upon by her Majesty in a great public emergency to form an Administration. I have felt it my duty to accede to a proposal he has made to me to become a member of his Government. I believe that the Government which he has constructed is determined to use every effort for the active prosecution of the war in which we are engaged, and for the attainment of that durable and honourable peace which is the object of the war to secure. Being appointed one of her Majesty's Secretaries of State, my seat in Parliament is vacated, and I venture again to offer

you my services as your representative in Parliament. It is for you to say whether my past conduct has been such as to justify my again seeking this trust at your hands.—I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your obedient and faithful servant,

SIDNEY HERBERT.

London, February 7.

There is no doubt of Mr. Herbert's re-election.

On Thursday, Sir G. C. Lewis was returned for the Radnorshire boroughs without opposition. In his address from the hustings at New Radnor, he spoke against the proposal to make England a great military power. "It is our true wisdom," he said, "to limit ourselves to that amount of military force which shall enable us to defend our own shores, and to protect our great dependencies abroad. If we can maintain such a military power as shall protect the vast region of India, and our distant colonies in Australia and in America, and if we can completely defend our own coasts, it appears to me that the objects of our national policy have been fulfilled. I should regret if we should embark in any mere ambitious projects. I wish to see the extinction of that inordinate and senseless desire which has been sometimes expressed of late, almost usurping the functions of Providence, for going in all parts of the world to redress wrong and to see that right is done; and that we should confine ourselves to the assertion of those legitimate international rights which a moderate military power will enable us to enforce."

In consequence of failing sight, Lord Charles Wellesley has accepted the Stewardship of the Manor of Hempholme, and a new writ was ordered on Friday for Windsor. Mr. G. W. Hope claims the suffrages of the electors as a Liberal-Conservative. Mr. Samuel Ricardo has issued his address, in which he repeats his expressions of fidelity to the Liberal principles which he represented at the last election, expresses his determination to aid the Government in vigorously prosecuting the war, and anticipates his return in consequence of the absence of (Tory) Government influence, which defeated him in 1852. There is expected to be a close contest between Mr. Ricardo and Mr. Hope, but the former gentleman is the favourite.

BRITISH PREMIERS.

The following is a list of Ministers who have held office from 1754 up to the present time—a period of ninety-nine years and ten months. It shows an average of duration to each Ministry of three years and eight months and one day, the Marquis of Rockingham's being the shortest within the period:—

Duke of Newcastle	April, 1754
Earl of Bute	May, 1762
George Grenville (father to Lord Grenville)	April, 1763
Marquis of Rockingham	July, 1765
Duke of Grafton	Aug., 1766
Lord North (Earl of Guildford) ..	Jan., 1770
Marquis of Rockingham	March, 1782
Earl of Shelburn	July, 1782
Duke of Portland	April, 1783
William Pitt	Dec., 1783
H. Addington (Lord Sidmouth) ..	March, 1801
William Pitt	May, 1804
Lord Grenville	Jan., 1806
Duke of Portland	March, 1807
Spencer Perceval	June, 1810
Earl of Liverpool	June, 1812
George Canning	April, 1827
Viscount Goderich (Earl of Ripon) ..	Aug., 1827
Duke of Wellington	July, 1828
Earl Grey	Nov., 1830
Lord Melbourne	Aug., 1834
Sir Robert Peel	Nov., 1834
Lord Melbourne	April, 1835
Sir Robert Peel	Sept., 1841
Lord John Russell	June, 1846
Earl of Derby	Feb., 1852
Earl of Aberdeen	Dec., 1852

THE NEW PRIME MINISTER.

The Right Hon. Henry Temple, Viscount Palmerston, who has accepted the most prominent place in the new Administration, was born at Broadlands, near Romsey, on the 20th of October, 1784. He was educated at Harrow, whence he proceeded to the University of Edinburgh, and afterwards to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he took the degree of M.A. in 1806. In 1806 he was returned to the House of Commons as member for the University of Cambridge. In 1807 he joined the Duke of Portland's Administration, as one of the Lords of the Admiralty, and in 1809 he accepted the office of Secretary at War, which he held until 1828, when he gave place to Sir Henry Hardinge, on the breaking up of the Wellington Administration. The 19 years during which he filled the office of Secretary at War, included the Administration of Perceval, Liverpool, Canning, Goderich, and Wellington. On the accession of Earl Grey to office, in 1830, Lord Palmerston was appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, which he held until November, 1834, when Sir Robert Peel came into office. Lord Melbourne became the head of the Administration in April, 1835, when Lord Palmerston again accepted the office of Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and held it until August, 1841, when Sir Robert Peel was again entrusted with the reins of Government. During the Administration of Lord John Russell, which lasted from July, 1846, to February, 1852, Lord Palmerston, for the third time, held the seals of the Foreign Office. On the defeat of the Derby Administration, in December, 1852, the Earl of Aberdeen became Prime Minister, and Lord Palmerston was appointed to the Secretaryship of State for the Home Department, an office he continued to hold until the time he accepted the Premiership. The noble lord has sat in the House of Commons for Cam-

bridge University, South Hampshire, Bletchingly, and Tiverton. He is an Irish Peer, and Lieutenant-Colonel of the Hants Militia. In 1832 he was created a G.C.B., and in 1841 a K.T.S. of Portugal.

SHERIFFS FOR 1855.

(From Friday Night's Gazette.)

At the Court at Windsor, the 8th day of February, 1855, present, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council, the following sheriffs were appointed by her Majesty in Council for the year 1855:—

BEDFORDSHIRE.—John Shaw Leigh, of Luton Hoo, Esq.

BERKSHIRE.—Henry Elwes, of Marcham Park, near Abingdon, Esq.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.—Philip Duncombe Pauncefote Duncombe, of Great Brick Hill, Esq.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE.—Sir William Booth, of Gamlingay, Bart.

CUMBERLAND.—Thomas Story Spedding, of Mirehouse, Esq.

CHESHIRE.—John Chapman, of Hill End, Mottram, in Lowdendale, Esq.

DERBYSHIRE.—Peter Arkwright, of Willersley Castle, Esq.

DEVONSHIRE.—Thomas Daniel, of Stoodleigh, Esq.

DORSETSHIRE.—Robert Williams, of Bridehead, Esq.

DURHAM.—Robert Surtees, of Redworth House, Esq.

ESSEX.—John Watlington Perry Watlington, of Moor Hall, Esq.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—Corbett Holland Corbett, of Admington Hall, near Stratford-upon-Avon, Esq.

HEREFORDSHIRE.—Richard Francis Wegg Prosser, of Belmont, near Hereford, Esq.

HERTFORDSHIRE.—Nathaniel Hibbert, of Munden, Watford, Esq.

KENT.—Sir Walter Charles James, of Beahanger, near Sandwich, Bart.

LEICESTERSHIRE.—William Ward Tailby, of Humberside, Esq.

LINCOLNSHIRE.—George Skipworth, of Moortown House, Esq.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.—John Russell, of the Wylands, Chepstow, Esq.

NORFOLK.—Brampton Gurdon, of Letton, Esq.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—Frederick Urban Sartoris, of Rusden-hall, Esq.

NORTHUMBERLAND.—Rowland Errington, of Sandhoe, Esq.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—Henry Bridgeman Simpson, of Babworth, Esq.

OXFORDSHIRE.—Benjamin John Whippy, of Leepace, Charlbury, Esq.

RUTLANDSHIRE.—Arthur Heathcote, of Pilton, Esq.

SHROPSHIRE.—Willoughby Hurt Sitwell, of Bucknell, Esq.

SOMERSETSHIRE.—George Barons Northcote, of Somerset Court, Esq.

STAFFORDSHIRE.—Samuel Pole Shawe, of Maple Hayes, Esq.

COUNTY OF SOUTHAMPTON.—The Hon. Sir Edward Butler, of Harefield, near Southampton, Knt.

SUFFOLK.—John Josselyn, of St. Edmund's-hill, Bury St. Edmund's, Esq.

SURREY.—James Gadesden, of Ewell Castle, Ewell, Esq.

SUSSEX.—George Carew Gibson, of Sandgate-lodge, near Steyning, Esq.

WARWICKSHIRE.—Chandos Wren Hoskyns, of Wroxhall Abbey, Esq.

WESTMORELAND.—John Hill, of Castle-bank, Appleby, Esq.

WILTSHIRE.—Simon Watson Taylor, of Urchfont, Esq.

WORCESTERSHIRE.—William Dowdeswell, of Pull Court, near Tewkesbury, Esq.

YORKSHIRE.—James Brown, of Copgrove, near Knaresborough, Esq.

WALES.

ANGLESEY.—Hugh Robert Hughes, of Bodrwn, Esq.

BRECONSHIRE.—John Williams Vaughan, of Velinewydd, Esq.

CARMAKESHIRE.—Samuel Dukinfield Darbishire, of Pendyffryn, Esq.

CARMARTHENSHIRE.—Edward Ab Adam, of Middletonhall, Esq.

CARDIGANSHIRE.—John Battersby Harford, of Peterwell, Esq.

DENBIGHSHIRE.—Henry Robertson Sandbach, of Haydonnos, Abergele, Esq.

FLINTSHIRE.—Arthur Trevor, Viscount Dungannon of Bryckidalt.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.—Wyndham William Lewis, of the Heath, near Cardiff, Esq.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—Edmund Ethelston Peel, of Landrino, Esq.

MERIONETHSHIRE.—Charles Ponsonby Tottenham, of Carrogissa, Esq.

PEMBROKESHIRE.—John Leach, of Ivy Tower, Esq.

RADNORSHIRE.—John Abraham Whittaker, of New-castle-court, Esq.

THE LIBEL CASE.—DAVIES v. PRATT.

Our last report of this case brought up proceedings to the close of Serjeant Wilkins' second speech for the defendant. At the reopening of the Court on Thursday, Mr. Ballantine proceeded to reply on the whole case. He said he had expected his learned friend would have attempted to show that Stacey's conduct was consistent with honesty; but its chief staple was uninterrupted invective cast upon Mr. Davies; it was vituperation of a kind hardly ever heard in a court of justice, and must have caused as much pain to the

learned arbitrator as it did to all others who heard it. In addressing the court, he (Mr. Ballantine) would at least avoid imputing motives of a vile kind—he would not attribute to persons fraud, villany, and conspiracy when there was only error. Having alluded to Mr. Davies' career at Berbice, the learned counsel proceeded to say that the Wellingborough letter, having been concealed for five years, was produced by Mr. Prout. [Mr. Prout: I did not produce it.] Mr. Prout produced it for the first time to the world. Mr. Prout lent the sanction of his name to it, or the charge would have been treated with the contempt it deserved. This letter had been, as was alleged, picked up and copied by Stacey. Must not everybody regard this as a most scandalous transaction? Every one asks, what is the meaning of keeping such a clerk in the Mission-house—a man who commenced a course of meanness seven long years ago, and concluded by committing perjury in a court of justice, in order to justify his meanness? He regretted to have to refer to the conduct of Mr. Prout in receiving such a letter without making any comment. One would have thought he would have said to Stacey, "What! read a man's letter to his wife! copy it! burn it; hide your own shame;" and it might have been expected. If Stacey had found a watch or money, and had appropriated it, he would have been called a thief—if he had given it to Mr. Prout he would have been called a receiver. What was the difference between stealing the contents of a letter and a purse of money? He would assume Mr. Stacey to be a rogue—he used the mildest term he could apply. (Laughter.) He would pledge himself to prove that the letter had been concocted. He would undertake to prove that the beginning and end were copied perhaps from a genuine letter, and between these a quantity of filth and obscenity had been introduced. It would be recollected that Stacey had sworn as to the time he had given the letter to Mrs. Davies, and that she smiled. Stacey subsequently altered his statement, or rather, qualified it, for he said, "She read a bit of it," by which she would not have come to the filthy part of it; and thereby got rid of the observation, that no woman could have read such a letter which had fallen into the hands of other persons "with a smile of satisfaction." The learned arbitrator would see that the postscript had been cut off, as it was said, to conceal Horley's name. There was a much better reason than that for cutting it off. It referred to the name of Beale, the mission messenger, and Stacey well knew it would not be advisable that there should be any reference to one who would have been able to have tested the accuracy of those who stated that the letter had been found there on that day. He confessed he had given his mind to this case almost to the exclusion of all other topics. He had turned over in his mind how this matter had been concocted. Others had thought it was a concoction of Stacey's. He had well weighed the matter, and had come to a different conclusion. If there were a concoction at all, it was a concoction of Horley's—who had dropped the letter that it might be picked up by Stacey! In his judgment, the story told by Stacey, that he had picked up the letter, was true; the story that he had copied the letter was true, because his evidence on those points was positive and consistent; but the story that he had given it back to Mrs. Davies was a deliberate falsehood, and on that part of the story Stacey was found prevaricating, differing, and altering.

Serjeant Wilkins: It is hardly fair of my learned friend to open this new matter about Horley, when I have no opportunity of replying on it. His whole opening suggested a totally different theory.

Mr. Ballantine: But Mr. Horley had never appeared in public then. I could not tell how he would show off.

Serjeant Wilkins withdrew the objection.

Mr. Ballantine proceeded to say: Mr. Horley had expressed an opinion that religious institutions were not favourable to the growth of piety in young men. He had left the religious institution and got into an attorney's office, where, doubtless, any injury to his morals arising from his connection with the former place would be removed. (Great laughter.) Never had any man, whether he came from a religious house or an attorney's office, evinced such a demeanour in the witness-box as Horley had. The manner in which he had given his evidence was perfectly shocking. He got into the witness-box in a slang manner, as if he were getting up to sing a song in some dirty pot-house.

As regarded Dr. Tidman, he (Mr. Ballantine) cast no imputation on him. He believed Dr. Tidman had acted honestly throughout this matter. He thought he had been deluded and mistaken, but he never could believe that he had acted corruptly and dishonestly. The Berbice rumours were, as he considered, disposed of; and throwing aside the Greenwich letter, to which he would hereafter refer, what were the imputations on Mr. Davies' character, to induce the belief that he could be guilty of the offence of filthiness and the crime of perjury? The learned counsel concluded his observations on this head of the case, by denouncing the Wellingborough letter as a forgery, the filth of which had been taken from an obscene work, purchased in that sink of infamy, Holywell-street, and supplied by either Stacey or Horley.

The next day, resuming his address, the learned counsel said, as to the Greenwich letter, he admitted it was indiscreet, but there was no imputation of immorality. It was held by the Morley committee to be indiscreet, and they recommended Mr. Davies to go out of London. Even after its existence became known to Mr. Prout, he entreated Mr. Davies to preach for the society. It was monstrous to suppose that Mr. Davies had a design on Miss Smith. His letter was abundantly absurd, but a letter written to a young lady's aunt is about the safest possible medium. (Laughter.) She was doubtless a strong-minded woman—especially in her own house. Reverting to the letters written by Mr. Davies to Dr. Tidman, the learned counsel said Mr. Davies was not a man of energy, he was ill-fitted to

battle with the difficulties to which human beings are exposed—a man who, if allowed to pass happily through the world, would have lived contented and beloved—a man of no ambition and with little energy, and being such a man he took the course—always an evil one—the middle course. He thought to conciliate all parties—he hoped to raise no enmity at the Mission-house, and adopting the course which he thought the best for the wife to whom he was endeared, he had neither admitted nor denied the authenticity of the Wellingborough letter. He yielded to the opinions of his friends and to his own wavering judgment. He (the learned counsel) was confident in the learned arbitrator's verdict as to the Wellingborough letter, and that he would find that Mr. Davies had no object in tampering with Mr. Beale, and that if the question were the lasciviousness of Mr. Davies, the Greenwich letter could not enter into his consideration. In the conduct of this case, though he had not refrained from imputing unworthy motives where he believed unworthy motives existed, he trusted he had not inflicted pain on those who did not deserve it. He admitted the honour of some of the parties engaged, and believed they had acted in error. He would conclude by saying, let the truth prevail on whichever side the truth may lie. (A round of applause followed the observations of the learned counsel.)

The learned arbitrator had previously announced, that he had made up his mind not to give his award in the present case until the cases of "Davies v. Tidman" and "Davies v. Reed and another" had been disposed of. He therefore proposed to take the next case on Thursday (to-morrow).

BAZLEY AND BRIGHT ON OUR COMMERCIAL PROSPECTS.

At the annual meeting of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce on Friday, important speeches were made by Mr. Bazley, the president, and by Mr. John Bright, M.P.

Mr. Bazley, after alluding to the disturbance in China,—the prospect of improved means of internal intercourse in India,—and the oppressiveness of the Liverpool town dues, went on to say—Probably the last year, in trade and commerce, had been more disastrous than any we had experienced for a considerable length of time. An old evil had unfortunately revived, for we had a scarcity of food, and therefore food had been extraordinarily dear, the population had had to live at a greater rate of expenditure for their mere subsistence than for many years previously, and it had become a plain and palpable fact that the more people spent in bread the less they had to spend in clothing. About two years ago he had called attention to the importance of the earth being cultivated in every possible direction for the supply not only of food, but of raw materials to employ our industry upon, and from that moment to the present he only saw the increased necessity of less attention being paid to the mechanical element of this country, and more to the agricultural element—not only in this, but in every other country on the face of the earth. We could not, he believed, have a sound state of everything until we had food—the first element of our existence—in greater quantity, and, therefore, at a cheaper rate. (Hear, hear.) In looking at the state of our foreign trade, he found America was one great cause of the embarrassment which had prevailed in this country among the commercial classes. The people of America were no doubt embarrassed by the state of their commercial arrangements, but they seemed to overlook the fact that they were paying for their manufactures, by their protective system, a larger amount than had been involved even by their unfortunate system of banking. He (Mr. Bazley) computed that £30,000,000 sterling per annum was absorbed by the unfortunate protective system existing there, and he trusted that the people of that country would yet see it, and that we should have a reduction of duties. The exports from this country to France were really very trifling, and they were in the same position there as in America. He believed that in France they were paying upwards of £50,000,000 sterling per annum through the system of protection. France would be the richest country, perhaps, on the earth but for this system. He was called upon some time ago by the eminent publishers in Edinburgh, the Messrs. Blackwood, to revise an article in the *Encyclopædia Britannica* upon cotton and cotton manufactures. He had ascertained to what country every parcel of cotton manufactures was sent, and the result he found to be, comparing the population of each country with the amount sent, that our exports were:—to the British dominions in the East Indies, where we had 150,000,000 of people, the value of our exports in 1853 was £5,680,000, or 9d. per head for every person in India. If we referred to Russia with 67,000,000 of people, our exports amounted only to £180,000, or six-tenths of 1d. per head; but to Russia within the coasts of the Black Sea, with a population of 3,000,000, the exports were £13,000, which gave 1½d. per head. To France, with 36,000,000 of population, he found we exported goods to the value of £155,710, or 1d. per head per annum. To British North America we exported £749,000 worth of cotton manufactures, or to the amount of 6s. 1½d. per head; and to the United States, with a population of 27,000,000, we exported £4,182,109 worth, or at the rate of 3s. 1d. per head. By the assistance of his friend Mr. John Leisler, a foreign merchant, he had been able to approximate as nearly as possible, perhaps, to the value of the cotton manufactures consumed in Great Britain and Ireland, and he found that, while our exports amounted to £32,712,000, we had retained at home not less than £21,224,000 worth of cotton manufactures; showing that the people of Great Britain consume of our staple manufacture of cotton at the rate of 16s. 5d. per head per annum; and the result was that to the 850,000,000 inhabitants in the world Great Britain supplied nearly £54,000,000 sterling worth of cotton

manufactures, being about an average to each person of 1s. 3d. per head. Now, according to this table, the cotton industry of Great Britain and Ireland was £54,000,000 in 1853, and this might be considered half the cotton industry of the whole world; but foreign countries, besides taking half the raw cotton sent to the market, received large quantities of cotton yarn from this country, and in Asia and Africa cotton was still largely spun by hand. Hence the world's cotton industry might, therefore, be reckoned at £120,000,000, which would be to every man, woman, and child, on the face of the earth equal to about 2s. 0d., or fourteen yards each per annum of excellent calico. (Hear, hear.) Reverting to the *Encyclopædia Britannica* the president observed, that an excellent article on agriculture had been contributed, and he called the attention of gentlemen engaged in manufactures and commerce to it as well worthy of their attention as of agriculturists themselves.

Mr. Bright had been struck by the fact that the average value of the cotton manufactures in this country—£54,000,000—was about equal to the annual taxation. Estimating the value of the labour employed in this manufacture at half the gross amount (Mr. Basley thought it was £30,000,000), it would be observed that the labour of double the whole population of the cotton district was absorbed on the average expenditure of Government—probably treble that amount in this time of war. Another remarkable circumstance was, that though the harvest of 1853 was the scantiest, probably, that we have had in this country since 1817, and that the harvest of 1854 was the most productive that ever we had, yet the price of wheat last year—72s. 2d. a-quarter—was higher than it has been for a whole year during any year since 1819, and notwithstanding the extraordinary harvest of 1854, the price of wheat in December last was 78s. 1d., being higher by about 1s. 6d. than it was in December, 1853, when the harvest had been as greatly deficient. Stating on the authority of an eminent firm in the corn trade, that the export of wheat from Russia in 1853, 600,000 quarters, he estimated the cost to the country of exclusion of Russian wheat by the war:—

In the United Kingdom the consumption of wheat, in round numbers, is 30 millions of quarters—perhaps a little less, and the present price being £3 10s. a quarter, that will give us an expenditure, at this rate of price in a year, of 105 millions sterling for wheat. There can be no doubt whatever that, if the imports had been free, with but late great harvest, the price would have been 60s. instead of 70s.; that is, a saving of 20s. a quarter; and 30 millions of quarters at £3 10s. would cost 75 millions sterling, and it makes, therefore, a simple difference of 30 millions sterling in the cost of our ordinary food. But if we had spent the same sum of 105 millions and had purchased the wheat at £2 10s. per quarter, it would have given us 12 million quarters of wheat, that is, in all, 42 millions of quarters for the same sum we now give for 30 millions of quarters; and, therefore, that which is now an actual scarcity, as shown by the markets all over the country, would have been an abundance of the most profuse character—perhaps as profuse as we have ever seen in this country before. Now, that extra expenditure comes to an amount exceeding £5 per annum for every family in the country, being equal to doubling the rent of all the working classes in the United Kingdom, because on the average they don't, I believe, live in houses of more than £5 yearly rent, and these being about 6,000,000 families, or rather less than that, it would give £30,000,000 as the extra sum they have to give for food. That is not the whole matter, because this £30,000,000 paid for food is followed by another sum almost equal in amount—I will not call it equal, I will be under the mark, and I will say 20,000,000 of extra expenditure on the part of the Government, which will bring the whole extra expenditure in food, and the increased expenditure of Government together, to a sum not less than £50,000,000 sterling this year. Therefore we are in the position of actually paying a tribute—to a foreign country I won't say—but to an idea of supposed benefit and gain of some kind, of £50,000,000 sterling this year; and whether we shall get anything on the other side of the ledger or not is a matter which some people are sanguine about, but I confess I am not; but at any rate the payment is made, and cannot be escaped, and its results, I think, we are bound to look at. That £50,000,000 is withdrawn from capital, the fund out of which labour is supplied; but that does not make the whole mischief, for we all know the doubt, and fear, and uncertainty prevailing in the minds of capitalists all over the country, causing probably a withdrawal of funds, of capital equal to the whole of that amount, of 20 and 30 millions together; and, therefore, the sum you actually expend is by no means a fair indication of the mischief to which you are subjected. Look at the absorption of money—a loan in France, a vast loan in Austria, a loan in Prussia, Russia raising money in some way, and by loans if it be possible, this country balancing whether it shall be by extra taxation, or whether it shall be by a loan; but in whichever way it is, and whatever be this expenditure now going on at such a rate all over Europe, and to so large an extent in this country, that money being withdrawn from profitable investments and modes of employment by which labour is sustained, it must, as a matter of course, act upon this country, and I believe upon this country more powerfully than any other, and upon all other countries in the world, of which this country is the great monetary and commercial centre.

He concluded with a gloomy picture of the state of commerce in the manufacturing districts—mills working at a loss; union-houses choked; beggars reappearing in the streets—and with the solemn warning, "If you have the supplies of food in this country for any long period at 70s. per quarter, it is not in changes of cabinets and prime ministers; it is not in dreams of glory in foreign wars; it is not in any contrivance of human statesmanship or human imposture, that that population can be prevented from sinking deeper and deeper into suffering, and if into suffering, then into discontent, and at length into insubordination. (Cheers.) My solemn belief is, that if these six million quarters of corn are to be, by the effects of our foreign policy, kept

out of this country, before two years are over you will shoot your own fellow-citizens in your own streets."

EARL CARDIGAN AT NORTHAMPTON.

The *Northampton Herald* has an account of a triumphal entry made into that town on Thursday by the Earl of Cardigan, and a report also of the noble earl's speech in reply to an address presented to him by the corporation. Alluding to a passage in the address in which he was congratulated upon his return to England, he said,—"I must say that, had it not been for circumstances, arising partly from ill-health, over which I had no control, I should not have deemed it my duty to leave the seat of war at this time, although, perhaps, my remaining there would have been almost useless, for I had nothing left to command. (Hear, hear.) I still think that, unless some such reasons as I am about to assign can be urged—incapacity arising from ill-health amongst the number—every general officer is bound to remain with the army as long as there is an army to command—(cheers)—and I am prepared to say further, that if my services are again required, they shall be perfectly available. (Loud cheering.) In the meantime I have been promoted to a situation—Inspector-General of Cavalry—in which I hope to be able to render considerable service to the army by repairing the losses and restoring the dilapidated condition of the cavalry—being, in short, entrusted with the preparation of all cavalry recruits for the army. (Cheers.) I have said that, had I remained in the Crimea, I should not have been usefully employed, as there was so little remaining for me to command. That is unfortunately the case; for in addition to other special reasons for losses incurred, hundreds of cavalry horses died through the commissariat failing to provide provisions or forage for them. Before I left the army, which was early in December, the horses of the brigade which I had the honour to command had been eighteen days without hay, and but a very small portion of barley had been given them to keep them alive. (Cries of "Shame! shame!") The consequence was that the horses died daily in great numbers in the lines. Then there was another strong reason for the great diminution of the numbers of the brigade which I commanded—I mean that charge at Balaklava—(immense cheering)—which is specially mentioned in the address which you have presented to me this day. In that attack 400 horses were killed or rendered unserviceable; 370 were killed in action, and the remainder were in such a sad state from numerous wounds that they were obliged to be destroyed the following morning. (Hear, hear.) But, in connection with that charge, I have to mention a much more serious circumstance—I mean the sad loss of human life that then occurred. No fewer than 26 officers and 278 non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, making a total of 300, were killed and wounded in that action. This, then, will thoroughly explain the state of the Light Brigade. (Hear, hear.) And it is for this reason that I never can allude to the subject without the deepest feelings of regret. (Hear, hear.) At the same time, though I do not pretend to more sentimentality than other men, it seemed to me at the time, and still seems, that the loss was so certain and serious, and the advantage to be gained by the attack so slight, as to make it matter of deep regret that the order was given. (Hear, hear.) I received the order, however, to attack; and although I should not have thought of making such an attack without orders, and although I differed in opinion as to the propriety of the order, I promptly obeyed it. (Loud cheering.)

The noble earl went on to describe the famous charge, in words almost identical with those he used at the Mansion House; but which we had no room to report in the Postscript to our last.

I placed myself at the head of my brigade, and gave the word of command. We advanced, but before we had gone twenty yards a shell burst between me and the staff-officer who had brought the order, and was riding within thirty yards of my side, killing him and leaving me untouched. (Hear, hear.) From that moment there was nothing to be done but to obey the order, and attack the battery in the valley. We proceeded—and advanced down and along a gradual descent of more than three-quarters of a mile, with one of the batteries opposed to us vomiting forth shells, round shot, and grape—with a battery on the right flank, a battery on the left, and a distant battery which had been lost by the Turks, and all the intermediate ground covered with Russian riflemen—so that when we came down within a distance of thirty yards to their artillery which had been firing at us, we were, in fact, surrounded and encircled by a blaze of fire, and raked by the riflemen, who fired upon us in flank. As we passed, the oblique fire of the artillery was brought upon our rear. Thus, we had a strong fire on the front, in the rear, and on both our flanks. We entered the battery—we went through the battery—the two leading regiments cutting down a great number of the Russian gunners. (Hear, hear.) In the two regiments which I had the honour to lead, every officer was either killed or wounded, or had his horse shot under him, except one. Those regiments having proceeded on, were followed by the second line, consisting of two more cavalry regiments, which continued to cut down the Russian gunners. Then came the third line, consisting of two other regiments, who also nobly performed their duty. The result was, this body of about 600 cavalry succeeded in passing through a body of, as we have since learnt, 5,600 Russian cavalry. (Cheers.) I know the number of the Russian regiments, and the name of the general officer who commanded the brigade. We did as much execution as we could, and suffered an immense loss of life ourselves. After riding through the Russian cavalry we came upon the Tchernaya river. There we were stopped, and we had to retire by the same route by which we came, destroying as many of the enemy as we could. I believe we succeeded in destroying the greater part of the Russian gunners and in doing great execution amongst the Russian cavalry. (Cheers.) The scene, on retiring, was lamentable in the extreme; still nothing could

be accomplished more regularly, or with greater order; there was no confusion, no hurrying, no galloping about, no desire to retreat too hastily, but the whole thing was conducted as coolly and systematically as upon parade. (Cheers.) As we returned up the hill we had descended, we had to run the same gauntlet, and incur the same risk from the flank fire of the Russian riflemen. Numbers of men and horses were shot down, and many soldiers who had lost their chargers were killed whilst endeavouring to escape on foot. The consequence was, that when we reached the top of the hill, there was but about one-third of the whole brigade left. (Hear.) I think when I went round to count them, 195 only remained. The rest were gone—destroyed in that charge. (Hear.) Now, I am not going into this case any further; I am not going to say whether this thing should have been done, or, indeed, to say anything more upon the subject. You have all of you had an opportunity of reading Lord Raglan's despatches describing how it occurred. I will only say further with regard to that charge, that, highly as you approve of it—and I will not conceal my pride and gratification at receiving your approbation and high opinion of the gallantry then displayed—I feel that, whatever gallantry you may attribute to me was equalled by every man in that brigade. (Loud and continued cheering.) I feel—they followed—there was no hesitation—I never saw so ready, so cheerful a body of men in my life. I never witnessed anything done with more spirit or with lighter hearts; and to such an extent was this evidenced, that, when the remnant of the brigade returned to position, the men were so elated at what they deemed so creditable to themselves and to the British arms, that they gave three cheers of rejoicing at having attacked the Russian batteries, and at having ridden through and through so large a body of Russian cavalry. (Renewed cheering.) I think, now, I have given you enough of military matters, and that you will wish to be relieved (general cries of No, no). Let me assure you once more that I can never cease to feel the greatest pride and gratification at the reception you have given me this day. It is an unexpected honour; indeed, I could not have believed, if I had not seen it, that I should have received such kindness, such warm approval, and such flattering testimony, as have this day been given to me in the great town of Northampton. I return you all my sincere thanks. To the Mayor and Town Council I cannot express what I feel at the honour of receiving such an address. I value it more than any one thing that I possess, and shall cherish with unalloyed gratification a remembrance of its presentation, and of the feelings which prompted it, throughout the remainder of my life. (The noble earl, at the conclusion of his address, was greeted with loud cheering from every part of the room.)

DEATH'S DOINGS.

Mr. Pryse Loveden, M.P., who has been for many years the representative of the Cardigan district of boroughs, died on the 1st, at the early age of 39. He was of Whig principles.

Mr. John Henry Vivian, M.P., of Swansea, expired, after a few weeks' illness, at his residence, Singleton, near Swansea, on Saturday evening, at six o'clock, in the 70th year of his age. He was one of the most influential and popular men in South Wales, and, from his commanding position in the copper trade, was well known in the commercial world. He married, in 1816, Sarah, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Arthur Jones, of the Bryn, and formerly of the Priory, Reigate, by whom he had issue, Lady Gibson Craig, Edinburgh; H. Hussey Vivian, the present M.P. for Truro; Mrs. Jones Lloyd; besides several sons and daughters who are unmarried. He has been a member of Parliament for twenty-three years, having represented Swansea without incurring the slightest opposition since the passing of the Reform Bill. In politics Mr. Vivian was an advanced Liberal, being in favour of the ballot and all such measures as were calculated to enlarge the area of popular representation. Until his remains are consigned to their last resting-place, as a matter of respect, no active steps will be taken in reference to a successor. One thing, however, is certain; the gentleman must be a staunch Liberal; for, out of a constituency of 1,800, there are not 200 Tories in the western boroughs of Glamorganshire.

Lady Harriet Elliot, youngest daughter of the Earl of Minto, and sister of Lady John Russell, died on Friday morning after a protracted illness, at the Hotel Meurice, in Paris.

The Rev. G. Fletcher, aged 108, who was born on Feb. 2, 1747, at Clarbrough, in Nottinghamshire, died on the 2nd inst. From six years of age he had been brought up in the tenets of Wesleyanism, and remained a member of that body till his death. He spent 83 years of his life in active pursuits. He was 21 years a farmer, 26 years he served his Sovereign in the army, was at the battle of Bunker's-hill, and followed Abercrombie into Egypt, where he gained the respect and esteem of his officers. He then entered the West India Dock Company's service, where he continued 36 years, when he retired on their bounty, still preserving up to within six months of his decease that astonishing activity of mind and body for which he was so remarkable, often travelling great distances by rail, and pursuing his holy calling, preaching two or three times a-day regardless of personal inconvenience, for the objects of charity and benevolence.

Vice-Admiral Brian Hodgson expired at his seat in Cumberland on Wednesday last. This gallant officer was in his 75th year, and had seen much service afloat. He was on the reserved flag officers' list, and in receipt of a good service pension of £150 a-year. This vacancy will promote Captain Sir Richard Grant to the rank of Rear-Admiral.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE WAR.

Mr. Stanford, the map publisher, of Charing-cross, has issued another of his useful illustrations of the seat of war—"A Bird's-Eye View." The lithograph, executed by Muelare, from the latest government authorities, shows at a glance the whole country from the heights of Alma to the harbour of Balaklava. In

addition to the outlines and remarkable irregularities of this famous corner of the Crimea, the Russian town and works, the native Inkermann, and the ancient Chersonese, the lines of attack and communication, are vividly shown. One can trace with a pencil all the movements by which world-exciting news has been made within these four months past, the probable line of the railway, and even the bearing of the besiegers' guns upon the town, harbours, and opposite batteries. It is, in short, Mr. Wyld's model put upon paper.

Two new views have been added to the Diorama of Events of the War, at the Gallery of Illustration. Balaklava was the last previous stage. Now we have scenes at Inkermann, and the storm in the Black Sea. This latter picture, grand and effective in itself, is rendered more so by the dioramic effects of lightning, and by the scenic arrangement of the foreground rocks, which are attached to a gauze medium. The whole of the money taken on Monday afternoon, when these pictures were first exhibited, was devoted by Messrs. Grieve and Telbin to the Patriotic Fund.

The managers of the Panopticon are following in the same course. Though late in the field, their artist has already arrived at the heavy cavalry charge of Balaklava; and other scenes are in preparation. It is the peculiar advantage of this institution, that its musical accompaniments are furnished by an instrument that might have suggested Longfellow's line—"The blast of war's great organ shakes the skies."

Foreign and Colonial News.

SPAIN.

The Madrid journals of the 1st state, that in the Cortes, the Minister of Grace and Justice announced that the newspaper the *Castillo* should be prosecuted for having published the Pope's Bull on the Immaculate Conception before it had received the sanction of the Government.

French gendarmes have arrested 14 Carlists secreted near the Spanish frontier, prepared to attempt an invasion in Navarre.

On the 8th inst. the Spanish Cortes voted the first basis of the constitution—the national sovereignty.

On the 6th M. Madoz, Minister of Finance, presented to the Cortes his bill for legalising the sale of the property of the clergy. The measure was received with loud applause.

A stormy scene took place in the Spanish Cortes on the 6th. The Ministry declared that in virtue of the sixteenth clause of the constitution (which had just been voted) they would submit to the Queen the laws already voted. This led to a scene of disorder, the democrats furiously protesting against this formality. But Espartero was firm, exclaiming amid applause, "Abolish all government if you will not allow a Ministry to govern."

PIEDMONT—DEATH OF THE DUKE OF GENOA.

The Duke of Genoa expired on Sunday night at Turin. Ferdinand, Duke of Genoa, was the second son of the late King Charles Albert, and only brother of the present Sovereign of Piedmont. He was born Nov. 15, 1822, and married, four years ago, to the daughter of Prince John, now King, of Saxony. The present situation of King Victor Emmanuel is one to call for universal sympathy. Within a few weeks, and almost in the act of giving an example of active magnanimity to the kings of the continent, by taking part in the European war, he has seen his mother, his wife, and now his brother, fall at his side.

The discussion on the treaty of alliance between Sardinia and the Western Powers terminated by the adoption of the treaty by 101 votes against 60.

Count Cavour, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, made a very remarkable speech on the 6th. He stated that towards the end of November instructions were sent to Mr. Hudson, the English Envoy at Turin, by the English Government, to sound the Sardinian Government as to whether it would adhere to the treaty of the 10th of April, or place a body of troops at its disposal. At the same time official despatches were received from the Governments of England and France instructing their respective Ambassadors formally to invite the King of Sardinia to adhere to the treaty. The Government replied, that it never would have consented to place a body of troops at the disposal of England, but that it was inclined to treat for adhering to the treaty of April. This led to the military and financial convention actually under discussion. Count Cavour then read an extract from a letter written by Lord Clarendon on the 31st of January to Mr. Hudson, to show the friendly feeling entertained for Sardinia in England. The extract is as follows:—

Dear Sir,—I shall always remember with pleasure that my last act in this office will have been to put my signature to the ratifications of the treaty with Sardinia, a treaty which I think will prove of very essential advantage to both countries—to ours by providing us with a fine body of troops, and to Sardinia by raising her in the scale of nations, and by placing her in a position to which the Sovereign, the Parliament, and the people of that country have acquired a just right. You may assure Count Cavour that the treaty is popular in this country in all the great towns—I may say, even in the villages; popular to a degree of which he can scarcely form an idea, with a people which generally takes very little interest in the affairs of foreign states. There exists in the length and breadth of England so much admiration for the wisdom and courage displayed by Sardinia under difficult circumstances, so much sympathy for its successful efforts in establishing rational liberty, that any measure of a nature to draw closer the bonds between the two countries is received with a sentiment bordering upon enthusiasm.

The reading of the above letter created considerable sensation. Count Cavour then pointed out the danger

that would arise for Sardinia and the rest of Italy if Russia were allowed to have a preponderance in the East, and become master of the Mediterranean. He greatly interested the House by a preponderance of the influence of Russia in the councils of Europe.

AUSTRALIA.

The correspondent of the *Times* at Melbourne, under date November 23-4, supplies a few interesting facts. He describes the banks as, on the whole, in a prosperous and sound state. In one case, there was a dividend of 40 per cent. per annum. Respecting the value of gold, he says that the days of almost fabulous profits are over. There have been no failures of great houses, but the aggregate of failures is large, estimated at £1,000,000 in the whole.

The cry of "the unemployed" has been almost hushed. I can state in a few cases what I have paid within the last ten days for some kinds of labour; in some few cases mixed up with a small dose of remuneration for capital. I paid a jobbing carpenter 30s. a-day; I am paying a pair of hewers of wood 12s. a-day each for cutting up firewood into convenient billets; I have recently paid a carter for taking a single-horse cartload of miscellaneous purchases a distance of three and a-half miles 20s. This is an honest fair-dealing man whom I always employ; another, for the single job, would have charged me 25s. The charge for a cab (two horses) the same distance varies from 25s. to 40s. (generally 30s.), according to the competition on the stand. We pay a laundress 8s. a-day and her food, but washing given out is 8s. per dozen. The drawers of water are as well paid as the hewers of wood. These are all I can state from my own payments; but I know that common labourers get 10s. a-day, and the police get 12s. If the unemployed were anything more than a very insignificant proportion, these rates could not be maintained.

It should be observed, however, that there always has been a considerable number of men either without any serviceable qualifications, or for whose particular kind of work there is no demand—"Gents" from the counters of Regent-street, for instance, and soft-handed clerks from the large commercial towns. They are far less able to turn their hands to some profitable account than gentlemen from our public schools and universities, whose palms have been prepared for the pick and spade by handling an oar on the once "Silver Thames."

The Lieutenant-Governor had given his assent to the Convicts Prevention Bill. Sir Charles Hotham was proceeding to institute extensive inquiries into the details of the administration of every branch of the Government. No one doubted that there had been laxity and abuse of every kind in every quarter. The method adopted by Sir C. Hotham, for the prosecution of these inquiries, was to issue a commission to inquire and report, similar to commissions of a like nature issued in England. "This has been a very remarkable season; with the exception of a few hot days now and then we have really had no summer in our sense of the word. The weather, indeed, has been absolutely cold. At this season of the year the country around Melbourne is generally brown; this year, however, the fields have not yet lost their verdant appearance. For three days past we have had very heavy showers, and a good deal of rain has fallen." "There was a general impression two years ago that the attraction of the gold-fields would deprive the wool growers of labour to an extent to cause a very considerable decrease in the production of wool. This fear has not been realized, for the quantity exported has increased from 21,765,104lbs. in 1853, to 22,698,688lbs. in 1854." "The estimates were laid before the Legislative Council on the 23rd. They were of a most astounding character. A sanguine estimate of revenue for 1855 placed it at £3,015,688. The expenditure was coolly put down at £4,801,292; the deficiency being £1,785,609. No one at Melbourne doubted that this was the result of the most reckless extravagance, the most palpable inefficiency, and no small amount of corruption in the local executive."

The Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer, *Tagus*, arrived at Southampton on Saturday. She has brought the Australian mail and £150,000 in specie. This is the last overland Australian mails that will be received, for the present at least, in this country.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The *Siecle* has had a severe private warning for its recent articles asking for more liberty.

The departure of M. Soule from Madrid took place on the 2nd inst.

On the 30th ult., the Duke and Duchess of Brabant arrived at Corfu, and continued their voyage to Alexandria.

The King of Naples is said to be enraged at the Piedmontese alliance with the Western Powers. He has just renewed his contract with Switzerland for the supply of troops for thirty years.

When the accouchement of the Empress of Austria takes place, there will be one hundred and one discharges of cannon in case of the birth of a prince, but a princess will only be honoured by the firing of twenty-one guns.

The General of the Order of the Jesuits has addressed to the provincial officers of the order a circular, declaring that the Jesuits have nothing to do with politics, "the glory of God and the cure of souls being their sole missions."

"Strikes" are becoming common in the United States, though wages rule so much higher there than here: doubtless, the increase in the cost of provisions is the exciting cause. The canal labourers at Rochester have turned out, demanding eight shillings a-day.

On the 31st ult. the column of French troops coming from Rome arrived at Port Maurice, where a considerable crowd, headed by the officers and band of the National Guard, were waiting to receive them. At Voltri, Finale, and Allassio, the French troops were received with the greatest cordiality.

The Emperor of the French gave his first grand ball of the season at the Tuilleries on Thursday evening.

The invitations were limited to 1,400. Amongst those present were Queen Maria Christina and the Duke of Riancho. The former was seated on the right of the Emperor and the Empress on his left.

The Pope has sent to all the Governments of Europe a volume, containing, besides the Pontifical address pronounced by the Pope on the 22nd of January last, on the religious affairs of Piedmont, a statement of all that has taken place on that subject between the Sovereign Pontiff and the Sardinian Government, the whole being accompanied by a series of authentic documents, and forming a quarto volume of about 800 pages.

The mention of the recent Pontifical brief regarding the Immaculate Conception called forth laughter in the Portuguese Chamber. Senhor Gonsalves desired to insert, in reply to the address, a paragraph lamenting that no mention of the brief had been made in the Royal speech; and the Chamber laughed at him. In Madrid, the law-officers flatly refused to seize a pamphlet refuting the said dogma.

The telegraphic despatch in anticipation of the Overland Mail reports advices from Calcutta, Jan. 10; Madras, Jan. 14; Bombay, Jan. 17; Shanghai, Dec. 6; Hong Kong, Dec. 10. The Burmese envoy has demanded the restitution of Pegu, which has been peremptorily refused. The Khan of Kohan has been permitted to borrow native officers to drill his troops against the Russians. There has been fighting in the Persian Gulf, between the Arabs and the Persians. At Bombay money is scarce, and the import market overstocked. A monetary crisis is considered probable in Calcutta. About Canton, affairs are still ominous, and trade quite depressed.

Court, Personal, and Official News.

At a Privy Council held at Windsor Castle, on Thursday, her Majesty declared Earl Granville Lord President of the Council. Lord Panmure and Mr. Sidney Harbert were sworn two of her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State; and Mr. Henry Fitzroy was sworn one of the Privy Council. A proclamation was ordered to be issued against aiding and abetting the Queen's enemies. After the Council, Lord Palmerston had an audience, and kissed hands on his appointment as First Lord of the Treasury. Lord Panmure and Earl Granville had audiences, and kissed hands.

The Queen held a Chapter of the Most Noble Order of the Garter at three o'clock on Thursday afternoon, in Windsor Castle. The Knights Companions having been robed in their mantles of purple velvet, and wearing their collars, were, by command of her Majesty, called over by Garter King of Arms, in the Grand Reception Room, when the following answered:—The Marquis of Lansdowne, the Marquis of Exeter, the Duke of Buccleuch, Earl de Grey, Earl of Clarendon, Marquis of Abercorn, Marquis of Salisbury, Duke of Bedford, Earl Spencer, Earl Fitzwilliam. The Dean of Windsor was sworn in Registrar of the Order. The vacant stalls were filled by the knighting and investiture of the Earl of Carlisle, the Earl of Eilesmere, and the Earl of Aberdeen (who by her Majesty's special command retains the Order of the Thistle). The Queen gave a dinner this evening in the Waterloo Chambers.

The Queen, accompanied by the Marchioness of Ely, drove out in a sledge on Thursday. Amongst the visitors at the Castle have been the Marquis of Abercorn, the Duke of Cambridge, the Princess Augusta of Saxo Coburg.

It is now definitely arranged that the Court leave Windsor Castle to-morrow (Thursday), for Buckingham Palace for the season. The Court will remain in town till the week before Easter, and then remove to Osborne for the Parliamentary recess.

The Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Mary have arrived at St. James's Palace, from Cambridge Cottage, Kew, for the season. The Duke of Cambridge has returned to town after his visit to the Queen at Windsor Castle.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer had a dinner party on Saturday, at his official residence in Downing-street. The company consisted of Lord Overstone, Lord A. Hervey, the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, Sir J. Johnstone, Sir J. Herschel, Major-General Lindsay, Mr. Wood, Mr. J. E. Denison, the Rev. B. W. Browne, Mr. R. M. Milnes, Mr. Richards, Mr. Weguelin, Mr. Osborne, and Mr. Wilbraham.

We are sorry to learn that Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., is confined to the house by very severe indisposition.

Sir James Graham is, we are happy to learn, much better, and should no unfavourable change, which is not anticipated, take place, will be enabled to resume his Parliamentary duties next week. On inquiry on Monday at the Admiralty, the right hon. baronet was said to be going on favourably, and able to transact business several hours during the day.

The public will learn with satisfaction that her Majesty's Government, in appreciation of Mr. Peto's services, and more especially of his recent disinterested and patriotic conduct in retiring from the representation of Norwich to carry out the construction of the railway from Balaklava, originated by the Duke of Newcastle, has recommended him to the Queen for a baronetcy, which honour will be immediately conferred upon him.

Her Majesty, by various orders in Council, dated February 8th instant, published in Friday night's *Gazette*, directs that from and after the dates respectively mentioned in the said orders relating to the places therein set out, and subject to the modifications and exceptions therein stated, all burials shall cease in the places therein mentioned, and no new places of burial be opened. And by various other orders in Council, dated the 8th of February inst., her Majesty directs that certain representations made by one of her Majesty's Secretaries of State relating to the parishes in the said last-mentioned orders set forth in regard to

burials shall be taken into consideration by the Privy Council on the 21st of March next. And by various orders in Council, dated the 8th of February inst., her Majesty directs that petitions from the town councils of certain places in the last-mentioned orders of Council set forth, in relation to the providing places for the burial of the dead, shall be taken into consideration by her Majesty's Privy Council.

The Bishop of Sierra Leone (Dr. Emeric Vidal) died at sea on or about the 23rd of December, on his way back from Yoruba, and within forty-eight hours' sail of the colony. He was but thirty-five years of age.

According to the *Sheffield Independent*, the indisposition exhibited by Mr. Roebuck in the House of Commons lately was merely of a temporary kind, not likely to incapacitate him from serving on the Committee he proposed, should the inquiry be carried out.

The *Leader* states that the condition of Miss Martineau is such "as to leave no hope that her life can last much longer. The immediate cause for danger is an enlargement of the heart, and the end may come at any moment."

In reference to Admiral Berkeley's statement in the House of Commons on Friday, Sir C. Napier in a letter to Mr. Crauford, M.P., says: "I do not intend to bandy words with the gallant Admiral, but I beg to tell you, when the papers—which I hope will be asked for—are produced, it will be seen that I was goaded to act contrary to my own judgement—that I was censured—and finally dismissed my command."

Saunders's Newsletter says it is understood that Mr. Keogh, the Solicitor-General, will be the second presiding judge on the Connaught circuit this spring.

The Board of Trade have nominated Messrs. Lightly and Simon, of Fenchurch-street, agents for the transmission to France and delivery of the goods intended for the Paris Universal Exhibition. According to the regulations of the Imperial Commission, all goods must reach Paris before the 15th of March—save in a few exceptional cases, such as silks and jewellery, for which the time may be extended to the 15th of April.

Miscellaneous News.

The Corporation of Hull have agreed to a resolution authorising the formation of Reformatory Schools, and have appointed a committee to carry out the same. A meeting is to be held this week at Leicester for a similar purpose.

A majority of the Banff and both the Macduff druggists intimate that they have closed their shops on Sunday. They say that the chief "medicines" asked for on Sunday are "hair oil and lozenges." Parties wishing for medicines will be supplied on applying at the houses of the druggists.

A sweep has been sent to prison by the Clerkenwell Magistrate for assaulting his wife with even more than the customary circumstances of brutality, for the poor woman was paralytic and otherwise in bad health. She pleaded for her husband's liberation; but the wretch preferred going to gaol to making a promise of future good behaviour.

The average price of wheat during the quarter that ended on December 31, 1854, has been 68s., while in the corresponding quarters it was 40s. 5d. in 1852, and 69s. 10d. in 1853. The price of wheat in two years rose 68 per cent., beef 44 per cent., mutton 14 per cent. Potatoes are fortunately cheaper than they were in 1852, and only two-thirds of the price that ruled at the end of 1853.

Two privates of the Ninety-ninth Regiment have been sent to prison by a Court-martial sitting at Chatham, for "firing at the Emperor of Russia"—so the journals phrase it, while rather sympathizing with the soldiers; but they really committed a grave military offence: they chalked an effigy of the Czar on a table, and then fired many times at it—their misconduct consisted in wasting the powder and ball of the public in this amusement.

On Wednesday evening Mr. J. Knowsley, woollen draper, of Fore-street, Exeter, missed a railway wrapper from his shop door; but on the following day it was returned to him, with a note, of which the following is a copy:—"Sir, since I took the ore cloth I have bin told hou you was a verry kind gentleman and belong to the strangers frend sosity. Konsequently I cant rest til I have send en back again and hope you wil kindly forgive your umbel servant —"

At the evening meeting at the Royal Institution on Friday, Professor Owen delivered a lecture "on the orang and chimpanzees, and their structural relations to man." He said that his immediate object was to show, by a comparative examination of the osteology of the orang outan, the chimpanzee, and of man, that the assumed transmutation of monkeys into men, by gradual development, is altogether opposed to the facts which a careful consideration of the subject presents.

The Edinburgh papers mention that a woman has been recently frozen to death. On Wednesday morning, while one of the keepers on Raith Estate was going his rounds in the neighbourhood of the lake, he came upon an old woman entangled in a paling. She was quite dead. It is supposed that she had become bewildered in trying to get along the walks, and, after great fatigue and the severity of the cold, had been exhausted in her attempt to get through the fence where she was found. She belonged to Markinch.

The coldest night experienced in London for some considerable time past was Saturday, when the mercury in the thermometer, at the Royal Humane Society's Receiving-house, Hyde-park, fell to 16 degrees below freezing point. At 9 o'clock yesterday morning the thermometer indicated 23, and, at noon, 30. The wind, on Sunday morning at 9 o'clock, was a little to the north, but, during the day, it veered from the north to north-east. The ice on the Serpentine was 5½ inches in thickness, but of a very dangerous character, a rising from the surface having been rotted and broken

by the continuous falls of snow. The ornamental water in the various metropolitan parks was visited yesterday by many thousands for the purposes of skating; but, beyond falls, contusions, and one or two immersions, no accident took place.

There are no signs of the abatement in this country of Mendelssohn's popularity as a composer. On the contrary, it is rather on the increase. On the "Mendelssohn Nights" at Jullien's recent concerts at Drury Lane and Covent Garden the attendance was unusually numerous. *Elijah* has been performed by the leading choral societies during the present season, and *St. Paul* is to follow. The last-named oratorio is to be performed at Exeter Hall, on Friday evening next, by the Sacred Harmonic Society, under the direction of Mr. Costa. The principal vocalists will be Madame Clara Novello, Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss. Mr. Hullah will also conduct a performance of *St. Paul* at St. Martin's Hall on Wednesday next, when Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves, and other accomplished singers, will assist.

Another rogue has been discovered in the ranks of the police. Joseph Davis, a young constable of the M division, has been committed by the Bow-street Magistrate on a charge of forgery. Captain Haines, R.N., of Bolderston, Suffolk, received a letter purporting to be sent by Mr. Harries, an old shipmate, soliciting a loan of £5 to meet a difficulty arising out of the failure of a co-surety. Captain Haines sent an order for the amount. Davis presented this order to the Navy-agent on whom it was drawn, and he was detected. The fraud had been cleverly managed: the fact that Captain Haines and Mr. Harries had served in the same ship a good many years ago was ascertained from an old Navy List. Other letters written by Davis had been sent to naval officers asking aid for brother officers in distress. Davis told an improbable story of his having been hired to write the letters by one "Stokes," who lives somewhere at Greenwich.

The controversy respecting the advantage of the use of chloroform is not yet terminated. Professor Simpson, of Edinburgh, writes to Colonel Napier:—"During the last six or seven years few operations have been performed in Edinburgh, either in hospital or in private practice, without the patient being previously anesthetized with chloroform. During that period one death has occurred in our city among the many many thousands who have been subjected to the use of chloroform. But during the same six or seven years among the comparatively few operated upon here without chloroform, three or four deaths have to my knowledge taken place, either during or immediately after surgical operations. In these cases chloroform happened fortunately not to be used—more from chance and accident than aught else. But, if it had been used, many would have at once unhesitatingly attributed the result to its influence."

An old building consisting of a double house, one half over a shop and the other half over a gateway to some stables, in the Lower-road, Islington, fell in on Sunday-night about 9 P.M., burying seven persons in its ruins. Four other persons were rescued from the second floor by the fire escape. The police took possession of the premises. The first object they saw was the lower portion of the body of a female projecting from the debris of the first fall. The police were endeavouring to extricate the body, when a loud crash was heard, and the police retreated. Two, however, were too late, and they were both buried in the ruins. One of them (Bet) succeeded in scrambling through, and at length came out at the top, to the surprise of his comrades, but the other remained under the mass of rubbish, and when his body was dug out, life was quite extinct. His name was Stoker, and he is described by Mr. Sainsbury as being one of the most steady and effective men in the force. A coroner's inquest is to be held.

An elaborate analysis of facts relating to the working of the Public Houses Act in Edinburgh has been published in the *Edinburgh News*. It shows that while there were 272 helpless drunkards taken to the Police Office on the last twenty-nine Sundays in 1851, and 202 on the same number of Sundays in 1853, there were only 43 on the corresponding Sundays in 1854. That is to say, Sunday drunkenness, so far as that has come under the observation or cognisance of the police, has, during these seven months, under the operation of the new Public House Act, been diminished to less than one-sixth of what it was in 1851 under the old Act, and is now *five times less* than it was under the modified law of 1853. Of cases of drunkenness, where the parties were charged with other offences on the last twenty-nine Sundays in 1851, there were 197; 1853, 210; and in 1854, 63; so that, while Sunday drunkenness in Edinburgh has decreased to six times less than it was in 1851, drunkenness combined with crime has also decreased to less than one-third of its amount in the same year. The number of all criminal cases (exclusive of "simple drunkenness") reported to the police during the last seven months of 1851 was 7778; in 1853, 7502; and in 1854, 6969. The opponents of the New Public House Act may deny that such results are attributable to that measure, and we do not pretend that all the good here indicated, whether social, national, or domestic, is solely due to it, but in the face of these statistics he will either be a madman or a fool who expects to convince the public that that measure has had no effect upon crime.

Galignani's Messenger contains the following information relative to the excavations still carried on at Nineveh, by French savans:—"The Minister of State has caused a three-masted vessel, the *Manuel*, of Bordeaux, to be hired to bring to France the objects discovered by M. Victor Place, consul at Mossul, in his excavations at Nineveh, and she has just sailed from Nantes for the Persian Gulf. Among the objects she will bring back is one of the monumental gates of the city, four gigantic bulls, several basso-relievos, a great number of utensils of earthenware, copper and iron,

and a number of statues of greater antiquity than any yet discovered. They are to be conveyed down the Tigris on large rafts, supported by bladders, according to the custom of the country, to Bussorah, and are there to be shipped. The descent of the Tigris, a distance of 300 leagues, will be attended with considerable difficulties and dangers; but M. Place will, no doubt, be able to surmount them. He has already accomplished the more difficult operation of conveying the objects, some of which are of enormous weight, from Khorsabad to the banks of the Tigris, a distance of some leagues, and across a country which is not only without roads, but traversed by torrents, over which it was necessary to throw bridges; and all this he has done without any of the apparatus employed by Europeans. It is expected that the *Manuel* will have returned to France in sufficient time to enable her precious cargo to be deposited in the Assyrian Museum of the Louvre before the opening of the Exhibition."

On Saturday last, a committee of the warehousemen and clerks connected with the wholesale drapery trades of the City of London, gave a dinner at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, to Messrs. J. Lilwall and E. Kennedy, the honorary and assistant secretaries of the Early Closing Association, in celebration of the success attending the recent efforts to close the warehouses of London at an earlier hour on Saturdays. Mr. S. Westbrook (Messrs. J. and R. Morley's) occupied the chair, Mr. J. S. Norman (Messrs. Bradbury and Co.'s) the vice-chair. In the course of the evening a superb silver tea service (manufactured by Messrs. Brook and Son, Poultry) was presented to Mr. Lilwall, and a morocco case containing a purse of twenty-five guineas to Mr. E. Kennedy, with appropriate inscriptions, as an expression of the esteem entertained for those gentlemen, and as an acknowledgment of the services rendered by them in furtherance of the above movement. The committee have further shown their interest in the general operations of the Early Closing Association by voting a sum of money to that society.

Literature.

PERIODICALS (FEBRUARY).

THE *North British Review* commences its forty-fourth number with an article from which we have made an extract in a leading article, and the whole of which we commend to the careful consideration of all Englishmen of political influence or responsibility. Under the title of "Europe in 1854," the writer analyzes the political condition of French society, and penetrates, by conversations supposed to be carried on in Paris with men of the various states, beneath the lava-crust which the last revolutionary eruption spread over Germany and Italy. One of the interlocutors is the Polish General Shanowski (Chrzanowski)—another, the Italian patriot, Manin. The opinions of the latter are introduced by an historical anecdote strikingly illustrative of more than one historical moral:—

We have always been anxious to hear the opinions of able and moderate Italians on the invasion of Lombardy in 1848. Many believe that it was forced on Charles Albert by the threat of insurrection. The Cabinet Council, at which it was decided on, has been described to us by one who took part in it. It was held on the evening of the 20th of March, 1848, in a room of the palace overlooking the Piazza del Castello. The Piedmontese constitution was then sixteen days old, it had been proclaimed on the 8th. Balbo had been four days Prime Minister. News of the insurrection at Milan had been brought in the morning, and deputies had arrived, imploring assistance, and announcing their intention, if refused, to apply to France. The Piazza was filling rapidly with a mob, new to freedom, intoxicated with its excitement, shouting out imprecations against Austrians, Jesuits, and tyrants, and crying, *Viva il re!* in a manner which showed they meant *Viva la Republica*. The Milanese had asked for 3,000 men. This would have been absurd; Count Revel proposed that 10,000 men should be allowed to go as volunteers. "I think," said the King, "that, if we are to act, we should do it more decidedly." Balbo's mind had been made up in favour of the war. He believed that the consequence of refusing the aid to Milan, would be not merely the calamity of a French intervention, but a republic in Genoa, and probably in Turin. The King's words and manner showed Balbo that they thought together. He looked round the table, and without alluding to Revel's proposition, said, "Sire, I believe that we are all agreed that we ought to act, as your Majesty has expressed it, decidedly, and that the Minister of War ought immediately to take measures to move forward the disposable part of the army; and I think that it may be advisable that your Majesty's resolution should be instantly communicated to the people." "By all means," said the King, "and I hope that you will all dine with me." The windows were thrown open, and from the balcony the Ministers proclaimed to the crowd below, that the army had been ordered to march to the Milanese frontier. It was thus, in a council that did not last ten minutes, in which a declaration of war and an invitation to dinner were included in one sentence, and almost at the dictation of a metropolitan mob, that a measure was adopted on which the fate of the kingdom of Sardinia seemed to depend.

Opening, at the other end of the number, upon pages with the attractive heading, "Diet and Dress," we extract from a number of good things well said, this, on the feminine *chassure*—"key-stone of the architecture of dress."

We have said that women with large or mis-shapen feet seldom or never move gracefully. They can neither walk nor dance well. And running is an impossibility. To real grace of movement, it would seem almost essential that the foot should be *arched*. This is coming to be better understood among us. Flat feet are too common in England—but dress, as we have before said, is a great leveller; and high heeled boots, now so generally used, give an artificial hollow to the foot. The frightful habit of turning up the toes in walking is thus almost entirely destroyed. Indeed, nothing is more observable than the improvement which, in this respect, has taken place in England during the last two or three years.

Our women walk better than they did, and are better shod than they were. How it happened that we were so long in discovering that kid-topped boots are far more sightly than those made of cloth or cachemere, we do not pretend to know; but certainly the discovery is one of the best that has been made of late years in the regions of costume. High heels came in simultaneously, and may almost be regarded as part and parcel of, this becoming innovation. Our streets are consequently far less disfigured than they were by the spectacle of shoals of women all showing the soles of their feet to people meeting them from their front. These high or "military heels" necessarily force down the toes, and compel the proper movement in walking—the proper exercise of the right muscles. The tendency of this elevation of the heel is to throw the calf of the leg out of the ankle, where, under bad treatment, it is too apt to settle. It is said, that, in this respect, the conformation of French women is better than that of our own, because the absence of *trottoirs*, or side pavements, from so many of their thoroughfares, and a very common use in the large towns, of thin shoes, compels them to pick their way on their toes. We think that it is Dr. Arnott, who, in his *Elements of Physics*, illustrates the effect both of wearing thin shoes and standing on one's toes, by comparing the legs of two men, *ceteris paribus*, taken from the same station of life, the one to become a farm-labourer and the other a London footman. The thin shoes of the latter, and the habit of standing on his toes behind her ladyship's carriage, develop the calves and refine the ankles of Thomas, whilst the heavy hob-nailed boots of Hodge have an opposite effect, and reduce his legs to a perfect cylinder.

The intervening articles are excellently chosen—and that is only the least of their merits. Nevertheless, we have but space to enumerate them,—with the intimation, that one of them may come up for future notice, in the columns that deal with the art of government rather than with the art of expression. These articles are—"The Byzantine Empire;" "The Vaudois, and Religion in Italy;" "Curiosities of the Census;" "The Oxford Reform Bill;" "How to stop Drunkenness;" "Old English Songs;" and "The Electric Telegraph."

The *Prospective Review* is apparently in a transition state. It is now published by Theobald, Paternoster-row, instead of, as heretofore, by John Chapman; and an editorial note intimates that larger changes are in contemplation. The happiest article of the present number is on children's story-books—the ablest, perhaps, that with the portentous heading, "Casuistry of the Romish Church."

The *Eclectic* has at least two notable articles—"Dr. Johnson as a Christian and a Critic;" and "The Reconstruction of Poland." *Blackwood* and *Fraser* are happy, each in his own way, with poetry, fiction, and criticism;—the article on Bulwer, in the former, is as comprehensive and discriminating as it is eulogistic. *Tait* maintains its new political strain. And the *Monthly Christian Spectator* contains "Letters to the Scattered," by Thomas T. Lynch; a name and title sufficiently indicative of design and power.

The only addition to the list of periodicals and serials made complete at the opening of the year, is the *Northern Tribune*; now a promising weekly—and a new work on the Polish question, by Count Kraskinski, published by Chapman and Hall in shilling numbers.

Essays, Selected from Contributions to the 'Edinburgh Review.' By HENRY ROGERS. 3 vols. New Edition. London: Longman and Co.

It was with great pleasure we introduced to our readers, a few months ago, the new and cheaper editions of the "Essays" of Mackintosh and Sydney Smith. It is with higher satisfaction still, that we now call attention to a new and similar edition of the *Essays* of Mr. Rogers—an author who needs no praise or recommendation of ours;—yet of whom we may be permitted to say, that we rank him second to none of the great essayists of the *Edinburgh*, either in strength and brilliancy of powers, or in breadth and richness of culture. In depth of thought, in solid learning, and in general knowledge, he seems to us their superior. In vividness, or gracefulness, or gorgeous rhetoric, he is surpassed by one and another of his compeers. But in the matter itself of his writings, there is more that instructs and suggests, and that remains a permanent treasure of the mind, than in the collected contributions of any *Edinburgh* reviewer. And it is only to the very first masters of style that Mr. Rogers is anyways, in that respect, inferior. His sinewy, well-developed, masculine English is almost perfection itself, for the expression of such thoughts, on philosophical and controversial subjects, as form the substance of his writings. We are not cataloguing his characteristics, or criticising his merits, in this brief introduction of the volumes before us; else, we might indulge ourselves with some remarks on the point and decision, the undimmed clearness and brilliancy, the noble *Englishness*, which mark these *Essays*;—and, again, on the giant grasp with which a congenial subject is taken up, the aptness and suggestiveness with which it is illustrated, and the original humour, wit, and irony, which are ever at command. Great among the great, will this name be, when the literary history of our generation is written.

The present edition of Mr. Rogers's *Essays* is not a mere reprint. Those formerly published in

two volumes have been only verbally corrected in a few instances. But about a third of the entire matter is new—that is to say, was not contained in the former edition, but is now first collected from recent numbers of the *Edinburgh*. The two longest—we think, too, the most delightful and valuable, as they are, also, among the very finest of the author's entire writings—are those on "The Genius and Writings of Descartes," and "John Locke—his Character and Philosophy." These articles will be fresh in the memory of the better order of readers of the *Edinburgh*; and have been written, and are here reproduced, in fulfilment of a pledge given in the Preface to the former volumes. "Sydney Smith's Lectures on Moral Philosophy," is the next addition, and a right welcome one. "The History of the English Language" is the admirable sequel to the previously published essay on its "Structure;"—two productions of the highest excellence and value, which we hope yet to see united in a separate form, a little modified, and at a low price,—perhaps, as we would hint to the publishers, in the *Traveller's Library*. "Ultramontane Doubts" is the last of the new essays; but, not having back numbers of the reviews at hand, we are unable to say, in the absence of information from the author, whether it has ever before been published at all. We, certainly, have now read it for the first time.

Let us, then, commend these volumes to the welcome and study of all thoughtful people; just saying for ourselves, that they are about the most excellent, in our estimation, that this "book-season" has brought us.

After the above paragraphs were written, we received the *Supplementary Volume*, published in completion of the former edition of Mr. Rogers's *Essays*. Its full title is, *Essays, Selected from Contributions to the Edinburgh Review*; Vol. III. By HENRY ROGERS. (Longman and Co.) This volume is issued because "it seemed to the author equitable that the purchasers of the former edition should have the opportunity, if they pleased, of obtaining the additional Essays in the same shape." It will be understood, then, that this volume contains the new contributions only, which we have above enumerated. It is honourable to the author and publishers alike, that its publication simultaneously with the cheaper and enlarged reprint should have been determined on. While we rejoice in the production of the *People's Edition*, as it may be called, we much prefer for ourselves this *Library* copy, with its handsomer page and superior type: and we doubt not that former purchasers will hasten gladly to complete their copies by obtaining this volume.

Songs of the War. By the Best Writers. Edited, with Original Songs, by J. H. FRISWELL. London: Ward and Locke.

This little book contains a selection from the War poetry that has been "going the round of the press"; with additional lyrics by the Editor, one only of which, "The Burial of the Dead," is worthy of its companionship. The others are from newspapers, magazines, and *Punch*; with two of Gerald Massey's *Ballads*, and two of Franklin Lushington's *Points of War*. We don't know what the publishers of these gentlemen may think of the appropriation of their copyright to his own purposes by Mr. Friswell. Certainly we do not think he excuses their transfer to these pages by "his own admiration"; nor by "the fact that their extraction has made them almost public property." Many fugitive verses have appeared in the newspapers, that it would have been serviceable to collect here; but the editor appears not to have any acquaintance with them; and altogether to have done his trifling work very hastily. His occasional comments are not very intelligent; nor is his information as to authorship very reliable.

As Mr. Massey's *Ballads* have not come before us for notice, we venture to give a specimen from these pages of the impetuous and fiery verse he has written about the War.

"Like a stern old friend, War grimly comes
To the temple of the peaceful life;
With the well-known nod of his beckoning plumes,
He hurries us into the strife,
And we meet once more, in the fields of fate,
With our chivalrous enemy—
Who knows by the grip of our hands in hate,
What the strength of our love may be.
Oh! the Lilies of France and Old England's Red Rose
Are twined in a coronal now;
And at War's bloody bridal it glitters and glows
On Liberty's beautiful brow.
We have dashed together like waves and rocks,
We have fought till our shirts grew red;
We have met in the shuddering battle shocks,
Where none but the freed soul fled;
Now, side by side in the fields of fate,
And shoulder to shoulder are we;
And ye know by the grip of our hands in hate,
What the strength of our love may be.
Oh! the Lilies of France and Old England's Red Rose
Are twined in a coronal now;
And at War's bloody bridal it glitters and glows
On Liberty's beautiful brow.

Then gather ye—gather to battle, ye braves,
In the night of your old renown;

And follow ye—follow ye—over the waves,
Where Liberty's sun went down,
By the bivouac fire, in the battle shower,
Remember your destiny grand—
Is to set in the thrones of their olden power
The peoples of many a land;
For the Lilies of France and Old England's Red Rose
Are twined in a coronal now;
And at War's bloody bridal it glitters and glows
On Liberty's beautiful brow.
Till the last fettered nation that calls us is free,
Let us fall upon Tyranny's horde;
Brave Italy, Poland, and Hungary see,
With their praying hands seek for a sword!
Till the storm-god is roused in each suffering land,
Let us march through the welcoming world;
And till Freedom and Faith go hand in hand,
Let us keep the war-standard unfurled;
For the Lilies of France and Old England's Red Rose
Are twined in a coronal now;
And at War's bloody bridal it glitters and glows
On Liberty's beautiful brow."

Mr. Franklin Lushington is the author of the following stanzas,—which, like his other "Points," are energetic enough, but not pleasing to us.

"No more words:
Try it with your swords!
Try it with the arms of your bravest and your best,
You are proud of your manhood, now put it to the test:
Not another word:
Try it by the sword.
No more Notes:
Try it by the throats
Of the cannon that will roar till the earth and air be
shaken,
For they speak what they mean, and they cannot be
mistaken:
No more doubt:
Come—fight it out.
No child's play!
Waste not a day:
Serve out the deadliest weapons that you know,
Let them pitilessly hail in the faces of the foe:
No blind strife:
Waste not one life.
You that in the front
Bear the battle's brunt—
When the sun gleams at dawn on the bayonets abreast,
Think of England still asleep beyond the curtain of the
West:
For love of all you guard
Stand, and strike hard.
You that stay at home,
Behind the wall of foam—
Leave not a jot to chance, while you rest in quiet ease;
Quick! forge the bolts of death; quick! ship them o'er
the seas:
If War's feet are lame,
Yours will be to blame.
You, my lads, abroad,
'Steady!' be your word:
You at home, be the anchor of your host across the wave,
Spare no cost, none is lost, that may strengthen or may
save:
Sloth were sin and shame:
Now—play out the game."

We prefer to leave all the War poetry without criticism; for, if we begin at all, moral criticism would be inevitable to us.

The Journal of Classical and Sacred Philology. No. 3. Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.

ANOTHER very valuable number of this important journal—the most scholarly that has ever been published in this country. It opens with a continuation of Mr. Hardwick's learned and interesting "Notes on the Study of the Bible among our Forefathers;" which is followed by the completion of a bold and searching criticism of "Schneidewin's Edition of the *Œdipus Rex*." A paper entitled "S. Clemens Alex. on New Testament Chronology" is worthy of notice, as dealing with a firm hand with obscure and knotty chronological details.—Mr. Conington continues his "Remarks on some of the Greek Tragic Fragments."—A brief and acute paper, proposes a new interpretation of "A Passage in the Nicomachean Ethics of Aristotle: Bk V., c. 8;" and shows, we think satisfactorily, that a passage which is ordinarily understood to refer to commercial exchanges, and which is then in direct contradiction to what Aristotle has elsewhere written on that subject, is, in fact, a remark on the interchange of friendly offices,—a solution of a difficulty, and the removal of an absurdity, which the commentators have not hitherto cleared out of the student's path.—An article on "The Topography of Halicarnassus" is a translation from the German with notes; and has interest both historical and artistic.—A second paper on "The Classical Authorities for Ancient Art," we value very highly; and architects and sculptors, as well as scholars and archaeologists, ought to agree with us. Further articles are promised,—and specially, one on the use of Colour in the architecture and sculpture of Greece.—Passing by other matters we have only space to note Mr. Mayor's page "On a late use of the particles *hinc*, *inde*, &c.;" in which he remarks that, neglected as the latinity of the last centuries of the Western Roman Empire has been, "it would be hard to name an age which offers a richer harvest of new results to the philologist." He instances the writings of Augustine, and at present confines himself "to a single class of particles, the peculiar use of

which seems to have escaped the notice as well of writers on the particles, as of lexicographers, and, with a single exception, of all writers." "The peculiarity is this: *hence, thence, &c.*, besides their primary and proper signification *hence, thence, &c.*, are used with verbs of saying, thinking, and the like, to denote *of, concerning, this, &c.*" Numerous examples are collected. It is such communications as this which give, perhaps, the highest utility to such a journal; and it is for the reception of these that it is indispensable scholars should have such a medium of communication as this journal supplies.—Another writer, Mr. Benson, conjecturally amends the corrupt text of that "Fragment of a Hymn to *Æsculapius*," which is preserved in the fourth book of St. Hippolytus; and corrects two important errors of the Quarterly Reviewer, in his exquisite translations of the hymn to *Atys*, and of a fragment from Pindar. Mr. Benson gives the following spirited and expressive version of the passage to *Æsculapius*.

"O slain erewhile, O lifted up again to live for ever, Child of the Sun, to thee I call, thy suffering one deliver:

Thou who of yore to all mankind didst open set and free The frith that without ferry or ford sweeps to the seething sea;

Didst loose the myriads of the dead, the feeble folk that dwell

Amid the crumbling palaces and black-burnt walls of hell;

Didst still the hopeless prisoner's cries, and the wailings on the shore,

And bring them home where they shall see the stony Queen no more;

And if thou sit in sacred Thrace, on Pergamus' bright steep,

Or hard by Epidaurus and the old Ionian keep Hold council with the bounteous gods, a god of bounty free,

Come blessed one; thy magian choirs lift up their voice to thee."

The Life of William Cowper; with Selections from his Correspondence. London; Seeley, Jackson, and Co.

THIS is the first volume of a new series, entitled "The Library of Christian Biography," to be superintended by the Rev. Robert Bickersteth, and published each alternate month. Such a project, if carried on with ability and catholic feeling, is deserving of the highest encouragement. There is a felt necessity for the reproduction of standard biographies, in a form and at a price suited to the recent improvement in the preparation of a popular literature. We trust this "Library" will meet that need.

It is intended, as a rule, to select, in each case, an original and authentic memoir. In Cowper's case, however, it was found that biographies of earlier date than Southey's were too incomplete; while the latter was deficient in sympathy with the poet's religious views and feelings. A new compilation has therefore been resorted to; and the result, as a whole, is satisfactory. The facts of Cowper's life are narrated clearly, succinctly and interestingly; his letters are used so freely, and with such judgment, that they give an autobiographic character, and the most valuable illustration, to the narrative; and the religious history of the poet—though too specially pleaded about—is examined with more care and sympathy, and represented with more truth and tenderness, than has been the case with most previous biographies.

Sacred Studies; or, Aids to the Development of Truth.

A second and enlarged Edition of "Discourses on Important Subjects." By Rev. R. FERGUSON, LL.D. London: Ward and Co.

THAT a volume of Sermons should so speedily attain a second edition, is a mark of unusual public interest and approval. It will be justifiable to dissent from this popular admiration, without at all implying a low estimate of the ability of the author, or a depreciation of the worth of his volume. We esteem it, indeed, a high merit, that these discourses deal fully and freely with loftier topics than usually characterise the pulpit amongst Dissenters. It is a greater excellence still, that, while thoroughly orthodox and evangelical, they discard the antiquated methods and stereotyped speech by which the pulpit has been so much separated from the common world and life of men:—they have the modes of thought and pervading spirit which belong to, and will speak directly to, the culture and tendencies of our own day. But we have now to take our exceptions:—1st, to an over-elaborate rhetorical manner, which injures the clearness of the thought, the beauty of the images employed, and the wholeness of the impression produced; and 2ndly, to a loose conception, and ambiguous expression, of even simple and plain things. We certainly desire more simplicity, chasteness, strength, and pregnancy, in discourses for general congregations; and should be sorry to see the pulpit habit and manner illustrated by this volume, become at all general among us. We could not satisfy our conscience without saying this. We have made a few extracts in support of our allegations; but withhold them. Only an exceeding admiration of Dr. Ferguson's purpose, and a recognition of his popularity, could have induced us to the utterance of these honest words, on a subject on which we have observed much and feel deeply.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Essays from the Edinburgh Review. Vol. III. Longman and Co.
Popular Harmony of the Bible. Longman and Co.
Milton's Paradise Lost. Books I. to IV. Longman and Co.
Sermons by the Rev. A. P. Mendes. J. Chapman.
A Few Words to the Jews. J. Chapman.
Human Habitations. By Mary Howitt. J. Cassell.
Cassell's Geography and Atlas. J. Cassell.
Memoirs of Anne of Brittany. W. and F. G. Cash.
Bible Teaching. J. F. Shaw.
A Word in Season. J. F. Shaw.
Psychology and Theology. Jackson and Walford.
Russia and her Oars. R. Theobald.
Discussion on Secularism: Grant and Holyoake. R. Stark.
Ethics on the Sabbath. T. Constable and Co.
Past Meridian. A. Hall and Co.
Poetical Enigmas. Clarke and Beeton.
The Unapproachable. Clarke and Beeton.
Annotated Edition of the English Poets. J. W. Parker and Son.
Grace All Sufficient. J. Nisbet and Co.
Abraham and his Children. Nisbet and Co.
The Family Band. G. Routledge and Co.
Fabiola. Burns and Lambert.
Grammatical Greek Exercises. Oliver and Boyd.
Burgel's Pocket Almanack, 1855. Trubner and Co.
One Thousand Questions on the New Testament. Jarrold Sons.
Congregational Church Music, Tenor. Ward and Co.
do, do, Treble and Alto. Ward and Co.
Songs of the War. Ward and Co.
Slave Life in Georgia. 77, New Broad-street.
Christianity in Turkey. Partridge and Oakley.

Cleanings.

The Duke of Sutherland has contributed no less than £1,210 to the different patriotic funds.

A dividend of six per cent. has been declared by the Electric Telegraph Company.

A Parliamentary return shows 136,000 persons employed on the railways of the United Kingdom.

The Manchester Athenæum had 1,606 members last year—an increase of 144. The year's income was £80 above the expenditure.

In Orr's Diary for 1855, there is the following entry, under date of 26th September, 1854,—“Sebastopol surrendered.”

At the present time Cincinnati contains 150,000 inhabitants, of whom 81,000, at least, are Germans by birth, and 45,000 of German origin.

The moustache and imperial of Napoleon III., says a history of the beard, are the first which have appeared upon the face of a French Sovereign since the time of Louis XIII.

A minor reform has been effected by the House of Lords. The public papers of that body are in future to be sold to the general public without the formality of a peer's order.

England (writes M. Peyrat, a London correspondent of *La Presse*) has constantly laboured to become a great house of business, and she is astonished that she has not become a barrack.

Her Majesty has this week conferred the Order of the Garter on three of her earls—Aberdeen, Carlisle, and Ellesmere—regarding them as a threefold A.C.E. of trumps.—*Gateshead Observer*.

A Northampton correspondent of the *Morning Advertiser* states that one of the commissioners sent out to inquire into the misdoings in the Crimea, is a young man of only nineteen years of age.

A vigorous movement, at the head of which is the mayor of that city, has been commenced in Cork, against the prevalent adulteration of articles of general consumption, but more particularly of breadstuffs.

A couple of young people were married at the parochial chapel, Hindley, a few days ago, at 10 o'clock, and at 12 the same forenoon the bride went to the relieving officer of the township and asked for parish relief.

The *New York Churchman* says it is an indisputable fact, that, taking the whole United States together, much more money is expended for the single article of cigars than for all the common schools in the Union.

The following is a copy of a bill posted on the walls of a village in the vicinity of Cupar:—"A lecture on total abstinence will be delivered in the open air, and a collection will be made at the door to defray the expenses."

It seems that French dramatists have received the *mot d'ordre* to make, as far as possible, all their villains Russians. Half a century ago, the stupendous crimes which are nightly done in theatres used to be imposed on the unfortunate English. But so wags the world.

Miss L. E. Landon (the *Athenæum* narrates) appeared one evening at the Opera wearing a dark velvet Scotch cap and feather. "Look!" cried Count d'Orsay, in a gay, eager voice, raising his *lorgnette*, "Look! that is Miss Landon, with her inkstand on her head, and her pen in it!"

It is now believed that twenty volumes will hardly contain all the MSS. of the Emperor Bonaparte collected by Louis Napoleon. Many letters, &c., written by the Emperor, are in a text hardly legible—it is only with the greatest difficulty that the exact words are made out.

The "Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers on Plymouth Rock (nicknamed by Mitchell the Blarney Stone) was recently celebrated at Astor House, New York, by a large party, who sat down at eight dollars a-head, and enjoyed "every luxury that the market afforded." Shades of the heroes of Plymouth Rock!

Sir John Bowring, writing to a friend in Exeter, says,—"You will deem it perhaps an event, that close to the great wall of China—of which Dr. Johnson said, I think, 'that a man ought to be proud whose grandfather had seen it'—I should be reading the *Western Times*, and talking of Devonian matters with the first lieutenant, Mr. C. T. Wrey, a relative of my old friend, Sir Boucher—but so it is."

In Lady Blessington's Correspondence (just published) we find Lord John Russell's excuse for not writing in Lady Blessington's *boudoir*-book:—

Woburn Abbey, February 5, 1838.

Dear Lady Blessington,—Although I am in opposition, I have got my head so muddled with politics, that I cannot turn my mind with any effect to higher and more agreeable pursuits. In short, I am quite unfit to contribute to "The Book of Beauty," and am almost reduced to the state of

"the beast." This it is to get harassed in the State car.—I remain, yours faithfully,

J. RUSSELL.

The following extract from the correspondence of Etty, the painter, furnishes a hint to bachelors:—"I have been so often and unprofitably in love," he frankly remarks, "I have serious thoughts of paying my addresses to my *tea-kettle*. I have found her a very warm friend. She sings, too. And you know how fond I am of music: I have heard a thousand times more unpleasant than hers. On a winter's night, after a well-spent day, with a volume of poetry—Shakspeare, Milton, Spenser—a volume of Dr. Johnson, or a new Scottish novel; when the wind is blowing, and patting against one's window; then sweet is the song of the kettle—sweeter to a studious man than a crying child or a scolding wife. However, I must consider seriously before I offer her my hand—lest she should burn it."

The *Morning Advertiser* has an anecdote to the effect, that the Queen, just before the delivery of the *Gazette* containing the details of the killed and wounded at Inkermann, desired that the despatches should not be brought into the usual room if Lady Gainsborough—who has a brother at the Crimea—were present. Lady Gainsborough was with her Majesty when the despatches were received, and they were put into another room, in accordance with the Queen's wishes. Her Majesty hurried away to the room in which the despatches were left, snatched them up, opened them, and eagerly ran her eye over the list of killed and wounded officers in Lieutenant-Colonel Jocelyn's regiment. Finding that he had escaped, not being even wounded, her Majesty rushed into the apartment where Lady Gainsborough was, and setting the rules of Court etiquette at naught, threw her arms around Lady Gainsborough's neck, and exclaimed with an emphasis which cannot be described, "He's safe! he's safe!"

A new accomplishment for ladies, called "Potichomanie," or the art of decorating glass so as to give it the appearance of painted porcelain, has just been imported from Paris by Mr. Woodfield, Buchanan-street. In the first place, pure glass vases are supplied of different sizes and shapes; then sheets of paper, thickly covered with every variety of coloured device, including birds, flowers, insects, Chinese figures, and other ornaments; and lastly, bottles of ready prepared colours for grounds, together with liquid gum and brushes. All that is required is a pair of fine scissors. The devices are first neatly cut out and arranged according to taste, then gummed inside of the vases, after which the whole is coloured and varnished conformably to directions furnished to the purchaser. When completed, the imitation of Sevres or Chinese porcelain, Japanese or Etruscan vases, is perfectly marvellous. "Potichomanie" is, it seems, quite the rage this winter in Paris; and is likely, we think, to become speedily popular here, as an ingenious and lady-like amusement, calculated to add materially to the more elegant adornments of the drawing-room.

BIRTHS.

February 1st, at Romsey, Hampshire, the wife of Mr. WILLIAM OVERBURY PURCHASE, of a son. [By a printer's error "Rev." was inserted for "Mr." in this notice in our last number.]

February 7th, at Chorlton-road, Manchester, the wife of the Rev. J. RAWLINSON, of a daughter, still-born.

MARRIAGES.

February 3rd, at St. George's, Hanover-square, by the Rev. H. Howarth, the Rector, the Rev. HENRY GRIFFIN WILLIAMS, Rector of Preston, Suffolk, and Professor of Arabic in the University of Cambridge, to FRANCES, daughter of the late CHARLES NEEDHAM, Esq., of Leicester.

February 6th, at Chagford, Devon, by the Rev. Hayer Humes, WILLIAM JONES, Esq., of Southampton, to Mrs. MARY MATILDA MARTIN, of Devonport, youngest daughter of SAMUEL HUNT, Esq., of St. Aubyn-street, Devonport.

February 8th, at the Independent Chapel, Ealing, by the Rev. Andrew G. Fuller, of Cardiff (the father of the bride), CHARLES WATKINS, Esq., to Miss FULLER, both of Brentford.

February 8th, at Hall-Fold Chapel, Whitworth, by the Rev. E. Robinson, Mr. WILLIAM HARDMAN, of Rochdale, to Miss HOLDEN, of Missey buildings.

DEATHS.

December 10th, 1854, the Rev. JAMES PATERSON, of the London Missionary Society, aged 48. He left Calcutta on Wednesday, the 6th, to proceed to Dacca, chiefly that he might study more accurately the Mussulman Bengali dialect, in order more efficiently to translate the Scriptures into it. While walking on the banks of the Hooghly, at Chagda, he complained of shortness of breath and weakness; and in half an hour after entering his boat his spirit had fled. His death was caused by water on the chest.

December 24th, 1854, on his return to Freetown from his visitation in the Yoruba country and Lagos, the Bishop of Sierra Leone.

Lately, the Right Rev. DAVID LOW, D.D., late Bishop of Ross, Moray, and Argyll, in his 88th year.

January 26th, at London, suddenly, GEORGE HENRY SKELLS, in his 24th year. His loving and generous disposition, amiable character, coupled with his simple yet fervent piety, endeared him to a large circle of friends, who mourn his early death.

January 26th, at his residence, Soho, Mr. ALFRED BRAD, aged 92.

January 30th in the 68th year of his age, Mr. JOHN NEWMAN, of the Market-place, Leicester.

February 1st, aged 39, PATRICK LOVEDEN, Esq., M.P. for the Cardigan boroughs.

February 2nd, at his residence, Scalby Villa, TIMOTHY HARCROFT, Esq., for many years an active partner in the firm of Messrs. Woodall, Hebdon, and Harcourt, bankers, Scarborough.

February 2nd, at his residence, Masbro' Hall, GEORGE SHAW, Esq., timber-merchant, aged 46.

February 3rd, at his residence, in Charles-street, Berkeley-square, Lieutenant-General the Hon. THOMAS EDWARD CAPPEL, aged 65.

February 4th, at Stoke Newington, JASPER CAPPEL, in his 68th year.

February 4th, at Brighton, at his residence, Prince Albert-street, after a short illness, Mr. ISAAC BARN (a member of the Society of Friends), formerly of Romsey, Hunts.

February 4th, at Leicester, in the 76th year of her age, RUTH, relict of the late Mr. FARRER, of Great Bowden, Northamptonshire.

February 5th, at Warrmsworth, near Doncaster, in his 75th year, WILLIAM ALDAM, Esq.

February 5th, at North Cave, deeply regretted, Mr. THOMAS BLOSSOM. He laboured in Tahiti and the neighbouring islands of the Pacific for twenty-three years, in connexion with the London Missionary Society.

February 5th, at Hawley Villa, Camden-town, of disease of the heart, Mr. JOHN HADDON, late of Castle-street, Finsbury, in the 71st year of his age.

February 5th, at the residence of Mrs. James Colman, Town Close-lodge, Norwich, the Rev. SAMUEL KANT, late of Higglesvade, after a short illness.

February 6th, at 1, Cheam-place, Belgrave-place, ELIZABETH, widow of the late Major Thomas Eschworth, of Edgeworthstown, February 6th, at his residence, Sawbridge-works, Herts, M^{rs} ANNE LANE, aged 91 years.
February 6th, in the 25th year of her age, MARIAN SOPHIA, the beloved wife of Mr. C. R. Jones, draper, 1, Langtry-street, the only surviving daughter of R. Tabor, Esq., of the same place.
February 6th, at Holmrook Hall, Cumberland, BRIAN HODGSON, Esq., Vice-Admiral of the Red, aged 78.
February 6th, at Hare-green Cottage, Esher, JAMES FARMLOVE, (a member of the Society of Friends), in his 79th year.
February 7th, ANN ASHTON, daughter of the late Thomas ASHTON, of Spaldwick, Huntingdonshire, aged 82—a consistent and beloved member of the Christian church in that place, with which her family has been connected for more than 150 years.
February 8th, at Keynham, ROBERT EDWARDS, Esq., surgeon, for fifty years a member of the Baptist church in that place.
February 10th, at his residence, the Grove, Hackney, of asthma of many years standing, aged 61, Mr. CHARLES FRIDGATE. The humble and loving disposition of the deceased will ever be a pleasing remembrance to those who had the happiness of his acquaintance.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—The full value of an admirable remedy—GOD LIVER OIL—not only in Consumption, but in many other painful disorders, has hitherto not been so justly appreciated in England, as by our Continental neighbours,—practical experience having taught them its extraordinary efficacy in cases of Rheumatism, Gout, Bronchitis, Asthma, Rickets, Scrofula, and Cutaneous Diseases, and its superiority over every other medicine for the removal of General Debility in children and adults, and for the restoration of strength to the convalescent. Probably this error has arisen from the difficulty of obtaining God Liver Oil in a pure and genuine state—few articles being more ingeniously and extensively adulterated or tampered with. This obstacle is now fortunately removed by the introduction into this country of the celebrated Light Brown God Liver Oil of Dr. de Jongh, whose indefatigable researches, during a period of fifteen years, have enabled him to detect the causes of the too frequent failure of this remedy, to discover its essential properties, and to supply an article ensuring the confidence of medical practitioners and their suffering patients. Sold in Imperial Half Pint, Pint, and Quart Bottles with full directions for use, by Messrs. Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London, Dr. de Jongh's accredited Agents and Consignees, and may be obtained from all respectable Chemists and Druggists in the Kingdom.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

Adverse reports respecting the war, such as a rumoured defeat of the Turks at Eupatoria, have had considerable effect upon the Funds. On Monday, Consols opened at 91½ to 1 and closed at 90½ to 1. To-day, however, an improvement of about ½ per cent. has taken place. Consols are quoted at 91 to 91½ for money, and 91½ to 91½ for the 8th March. Reduced 3 per Cents. have receded to 91½, and the New 3 per Cents., 91½. Exchequer Bills 6s. to 9s. prem.; ditto Bonds, 99½. Money is in active demand at Lombard-street.

The specie arrivals of last week amounted to about £250,000, and the exports were rather more.

On the 15th inst. (Thursday next) calls to the aggregate amount of no less than £725,000 fall due on the new shares of the East Indian and Madras Railway Companies, and will tend to maintain the demand for money, although they have in part been met in advance.

In Foreign Securities there has been little doing, and little alteration in prices. Portuguese 4 per Cents., 39. Russian 4½ per Cents. have been done at 88½. Sardinian 5 per Cents. are at 86. Spanish 3 per Cents. flat, at 86½. Dutch 4 per Cent Certificates, 93½.

To-day has been settling-day in the share market, and in the majority of stocks prices have been fairly supported. Eastern Counties are at 11½ for money, and ½ higher for account. Great Northerns have been done at 89½ for time; ditto, A stock, 69 for money, and 6s. lower for account. Great Westerns are 7s. 6d. higher for money, and for the account 10s. less. Lancashire and Yorkshire have receded ½ for money, and are 10s. higher for account. London and Blackwells are ½ weaker. London and Brighton have fallen 6s. London and North Western have improved ½ for money and 6s. for account. London and South Westerns are at 86 both for money and time. Midlands show a rise of 12s. 6d. for money, and 17s. 6d. for account. North Easterns (Berwicks) have improved 10s. for account; ditto (Yorks), 15s. lower for money, and 6s. less for account. South Easterns show an improvement of 6s. Great Luxembourgs are 2 better. Paris and Lyons 6s. higher. Sambre and Mouse improved to 8 for account.

Banking shares have been quiet and dull. London and County, 10s. lower. Australian Agriculturals, 2 better. Canada Shares have been done at 120 for account. Canada Government Bonds, 6s. weaker. General Screw Steam, 6s. higher for money, and 10s. better for account. North British Australasians are at 1. South Australian Land, 35½.

Liverpool advices mention the stoppage of Messrs. Kirk and Furniss, general merchants, who have been brought down by the previous suspension of other houses. Their trade was chiefly with Nova Scotia, and their liabilities are presumed to be rather considerable. At a meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Swanwick and Johnson, of Manchester, calico printers, the liabilities of the firm were shown to amount to £27,000, against assets valued at £26,000. It was resolved that they should wind up under inspection, and 16s. in the pound is ultimately looked for.

The accounts of the state of trade in the manufacturing towns for the past week show an increase of depression, but not to an extent beyond what was to be anticipated from the prolonged coldness of the season. The fact of the weather having thus checked the home trade at a time when the revulsion consequent upon the speculative shipments of last year to India, America, and Australia is at its height, is sufficient to account for nearly all the gloom experienced, and there is still reason to believe that the war, in checking the recklessness with which goods and capital were being

sent abroad, has thus far on balance been rather productive of advantage than of evil to the financial world. At Manchester sellers have again come forward during the last few days to a greater extent than the market would bear. The remedy, however, of a general lessening of production by a resort to short time is still deferred, in the hope of a revival of demand from low prices. The Birmingham report describes continued steadiness in the iron trade, but in many departments of business there has been great heaviness, followed by a proportionate increase of pauperism. A statement tardily made on the affairs of Mr. John Attwood, who failed for £500,000 in 1853, has created great surprise, since, instead of a large surplus being realized, as was confidently predicted, it appears doubtful if the unsecured creditors, whose claims amount to £112,000, will receive in all more than 2s. 6d. in the pound. At Nottingham there has been a slight tendency to improvement, both in the lace and hosiery branches, and, although, owing to the contraction of orders, some suffering has prevailed among the operatives, the labour market is not much overstocked, and wages remain without material reduction. In the woollen districts there has been no alteration, and confidence is fairly maintained. The Irish linen markets have exhibited unprecedented dullness; but, as short time will commence next week in all the factories, and their full productive power will consequently be reduced one-third, reliance is felt that there will be no further decline in prices.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week have comprised six vessels—two to Port Phillip, with an aggregate burden of 1,478 tons; two to Sydney, with an aggregate burden of 1,644 tons; and two to Adelaide, with an aggregate burden of 1,323 tons. Their total capacity was 4,450 tons. The rates of freight continue to exhibit general depression.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday.	Satdy.	Monday.	Tuesd.
3 per Ct. Consols	91½	90½	90½	91½	90½	90½
Consols for Account	91½	90½	91½	91½	91	91½
3 per Cent. Red.	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½
New 3 per Cent.	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½
Annulities	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½
India Stock	233 4	234	—	231	234	234
Bank Stock	219½	219½	219	219	219	219
Exchequer Bills	9 pm	9 pm	9 pm	9 pm	9 pm	9 pm
India Bonds	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Annulities	4 5-16	—	—	—	—	—

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 4th Victoria, cap. 29, for the week ending on Saturday, the 3rd day of February, 1855.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	26,092,565	Government Debt ..	11,014,100
		Other Securities	8,264,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion ..	19,099,865
		Silver Bullion	—
	26,092,565		26,092,565

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital ..	14,553,000	Government Securities ..	(including Dead Weight Annuity) ..	11,535,592
Reserve	3,256,196	Other Securities	14,590,176	
Public Deposits	3,740,512	Notes	6,356,370	
Other Deposits	10,543,737	Gold and Silver Coin ..	707,059	
Seven Day and other Bills	958,820			
	23,103,265			23,103,265

The preceding accounts, compared with those of the week ending January 27th, exhibit
An increase of bullion of £444,544 || An increase of public deposits of | £42,558 |
| A decrease of other deposits of | 114,431 |
| An increase of securities of | 379,465 |

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Dated the 9th day of February, 1855.

Friday, February 9th, 1855.

This "Gazette" contains a notice that the following place has been duly registered for the solemnisation of marriages therein:—Cwmitor Chapel, Llandilofawr, Carmarthenshire.

BANKRUPTS.

Clarke, J. A., and Davison, J., Cheapside, City, warehousemen, February 20, March 27; solicitors, Messrs. Reed and Co., Friday-street, Cheapside.
Monckton, J., King-street, Baker-street, licensed victualler, February 17, March 23; solicitors, Messrs. Lawrence and Co., Old Jewry-chambers.
Holloway, W., Millbank, Westminster, saddler, February 22, March 22; solicitor, Mr. Withall, Parliament-street.
Brooks, T., Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, and Sandown, Isle of Wight, wine merchant, February 20, March 19; solicitors, Messrs. Lawrence and Co., Old Jewry-chambers.
Palms, H., Strand, and Charing-cross, tailor, February 27, March 22; solicitor, Mr. Braddon, South-square, Gray's-inn.
Heaton, C., and Heaton, J., Lime-street, City, and White Lion-street, Spitalfields, export oilmen, February 22, March 22; solicitors, Messrs. Lawrence and Co., Old Jewry-chambers.
Spence, A., Postford Mills, Surrey, paper manufacturer, February 23, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Solomon, Fenchurch-street.
Buchanan, J., Moorgate-street, City, upholsterer, February 23, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Allen and Nichol, Queen-street, Cheapside.
Crouch, J., and Crouch, J., Wimbledon, Surrey, builders, February 20, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Lawrence and Co., Old Jewry-chambers.
Kirkaldy, A., St. Mary-at-hill, Tower-street, letterpress printer, February 20, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Gregson and Son, Angel-court, Turmorton-street.
Underwood, J., Epsom, Surrey, victualler, February 21, March 24; solicitor, Mr. Young, Serjeant's-inn, Fleet-street.
Rymill, J. W., Paul's-wharf, Upper Thames-street, paper agent, February 21, March 21; solicitor, Mr. Green, South Molton-street.
Gilbert, G. W., Hampden-street, licensed victualler, February 17, March 24; solicitor, Mr. Lewis, Wilmington-square.
Bird, J., Canton, Gloucestershire, lime manufacturer, February 19, March 19; solicitors, Messrs. Bevan and Gilling, Bristol.
Harrow, J., and Harrow, J., Westbury, Wiltshire, woollen manufacturers, February 19, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Bevan and Gilling, Bristol.
Ellis, J., Birmingham, fender manufacturer, February 23, March 17; solicitor, Mr. Hawkes, Birmingham.
Lea, E., Holly-wood, Worcestershire, grocer, February 19, March 12; solicitor, Mr. Rushworth, Birmingham.
Plimoli, S., Sheffield, coal merchant, February 24, March 17; solicitors, Messrs. Hoole and Yeomans, Sheffield.

Bulcock, F., Colne, Lancashire, grocer, February 16, March 13; solicitors, Mr. Carr, Colne; Messrs. Atkinson and Last, Manchester.
Broxap, Richard, John, James, and William, Burnley, Lancashire, cotton manufacturers, February 23, March 16; solicitors, Messrs. Hampson, Manchester.
Rochester, G., Sheepwash-mouth, Durham, linen draper, February 23, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Griffith and Crighton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Martin, W., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, joiner, February 20, March 14; solicitors, Messrs. Hodge and Harle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.

Faulds, J. R., J., and A., Edinburgh, commission agents, February 19.
Salmon, J., and F., Glasgow, thread manufacturers, February 16.
Eaton, F., and C., Glasgow, masons, February 20.
Walker R., Glasgow, brass founder, February 20.
M'Lellan, A., Glasgow, and Mugdock Castle, Shirlingshire, coachmaker, February 19.
Ricketta, D., Glasgow, heavy stable keeper, February 20.
Robertson, T., Glasgow, nurseryman, February 19.

DIVIDENDS.

Ward, M., Mark-lane, City, corn merchant, first div. of 3s. 6d., February 15, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Graham's, Coleman-street.—Wells, E. J., Maidstone, Kent, frommonger, first div. of 3s. 6d., February 14, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Aldermanbury.—Green, G. S., Aylesbury-street, Clerkenwell, grocer, first div. of 6d., February 14, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Aldermanbury.—Clarkson, W., Red Cross-street, boot maker, second div. of 2½d., February 14, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Aldermanbury.—Israel, I., and Nunes, A. I., Hackney, merchants, tenth and final div. of 3d., February 14, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Aldermanbury.—Cragg, E., Hendal, innkeeper, second and final div. of 1s. 4½d. (in addition to 2s. previously declared), February 10, and any subsequent Saturday, at Mr. Baker's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Tuesday, February 13th, 1855.

This "Gazette" contains a notice that the following place has been duly registered for the solemnisation of marriages therein:—North End Chapel, Towcester, Northamptonshire.

BANKRUPTS ANNULLED.

Louderdorf, D., St. Martin's-le-Grand, commission agent.
Hickes, G., and Pilling, T., Edenwood, near Edinfield, Lancashire, sizers.

BANKRUPTS.

Liley, J., and Cox, R. B., Day's-court, Gutter-lane, warehousemen, February 27, March 27; solicitor, Mr. Cox, Finner's-hall.
Clarkson, E. B., Bread-street, manufacturers' agent, February 27, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Marton, Thomas, and Hollam, Minding-lane.
Grut, E., Sambreok-court, Basinghall-street, merchant, February 23, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Ashurst, Son, and Morris, Old Jewry.
Nichols, T. W., Battersea, candle manufacturer, February 23, March 20; solicitor, Mr. Reynolds, Chancery-lane.
Dickie, J., and D., Portsea, drapers, February 23, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Sale, Turner, and Turner, Aldermanbury.
Daniel, R., Victoria-wharf, Union-place, Plumco, stone merchant, February 23, March 20; solicitor, Mr. Breeze, South-square, Gray's-inn.
Gibson, H., late of Gracechurch-street, merchant, February 23, March 27; solicitors, Messrs. Goddard and Eys, Wood-street, Chancery-lane.
King, R., and King, C., Cowley, Oxfordshire, builders, February 23, March 27; solicitors, Messrs. Ford and Lloyd, Bloomsbury-square; and Mr. Bartlett, Abingdon.
Currie, W. C., Moorgate-street, merchant, February 21, April 4; solicitors, Messrs. Wilde, Rees, Humphrey, and Wilde, College-hill.
Pollard, T., and Symonds, A. J., Guildford, builders, February 23, March 21; solicitor, Mr. Murrough, New-inn, Strand, and Mr. White, Guildford.
Godber, J. H., Godber, F., Howes, J. W., Eastwood, Nottinghamshire, drapers, February 27, March 20; solicitor, Mr. Bowley, Nottingham.
Lee, J., Birmingham, builder, February 23, March 17; solicitor, Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.
Ellis, J., Birmingham, fender manufacturer, February 23, March 17; solicitor, Mr. Hawkes, Birmingham.
Carter, J., Jun., and Charles Carter, Bristol, brewers, February 27, March 26; solicitors, Mr. Taddy, and Mr. Bevon, Bristol.
Wood, J., and J., Bradford, Yorkshire, spinners, February 23, March 20; solicitors, Mr. Taylor, Bradford; Mr. Blackburn, Leeds.
Pratt, W., York, painter, February 26, March 26; solicitors, Mr. Walker, York; Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.
Anderson, J., Bradford, Yorkshire, grocer, March 9 and 20; solicitors, Mr. Butler, Bradford; Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.
Martindale, B., Low Harrowgate, Yorkshire, draper, February 26, March 27; solicitors, Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester; Messrs. Richardson and Gault, Leeds.
Sutcliffe, D., Huddersfield, woollen cloth manufacturer, February 26, March 26; solicitors, Messrs. Rykes, Huddersfield; Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.
Addy, W. and T., Leeds, cloth manufacturers, February 26, March 26; solicitors, Messrs. Richardson and Gault, Leeds.
Ludlam, H., and Heaney, S., Sheffield, frommengers, February 24, March 31; solicitor, Mr. Ryals, Sheffield.
Hart, J. S., Liverpool, tailor, February 23, March 13; solicitor, Mr. Greatly, Liverpool.
Firth, C., Liverpool, broker, February 27, March 19; solicitors, Messrs. Townsend and Ridley, Liverpool.
Carver, J., Liverpool, licensed victualler, February 27, March 19; solicitor, Mr. Toulmin, Liverpool.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.

Macnee, D. and R., and Muir, J., Beilfield, near Kirkintilloch, printers, February 21.
Rome, J., Glasgow, upholstery furnisher, February 20.
Jackson, R., late of Neilston, Renfrewshire, February 26.
Bentley, A., Dalkeith, dealer in railway shares, February 24.
Grant, W., Dalwhinnie, innkeeper, February 21.
Boyd, W., Lawson, J., and Thompson, A., Glasgow, iron merchants, February 22.

DIVIDENDS.

Ball, W. Y., Wood-street, Cheapside, and Holland-street, Blackfriars-road, wholesale glover, first div. of 4s. 6d., any Tuesday, at Mr. Nicholson's, Basinghall-street.—Benumont, J. B., late of Newcastle-under-Lyme, common brewer, first div. of 3d., on Thursday, Feb. 18, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfield's, Basinghall-street.—Bullock, J. L., Rodney-wharf, Battersea, manufacturing chymist, first div. of 2s. 2½d., on Thursday, Feb. 16, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfield's, Basinghall-street.—Howell, W., Goswell-street, St. Luke, licensed victualler, first dividend of 4s. 6d., on Thursday, February 16, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfield's, Basinghall-street.—Grand, W., Lower Tottenham, builder, first div. of 10d., on Wednesday next, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Aldermanbury.—Symes, J., Queen's-buildings, Knightsbridge, chancery agent, first div. of 7½d. on Wednesday next, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Aldermanbury.—Scott, J., and Brazg, H., Walbrook, commission merchant, second and final div. of ½d., on Wednesday next and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Aldermanbury.—Martin, P. S. F., Halstead, Essex, iron manufacturer, second and final div. of 1½d., on Wednesday next and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Aldermanbury.—Cummings, T., Gateshead, painter, first div. of 1s. 9d., any Saturday, at Mr. Baker's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.—Adams, J., Longton, Staffordshire, china manufacturer, first div. of 9d., at any Thursday, at Mr. Christie's, Birmingham.—Barber, J., Manchester, engraver to calico printers, first div. of 2s. 9d., any Tuesday, at Mr. Bernanman's, Manchester.—Ormerod, P., Heyworth, G., Heyworth, T., Bridge, E., and Crossley, E., Heyworth, near Hawtensall, cotton manufacturers, first div. of 8s. 6d., any Tuesday, at Mr. Bernanman's, Manchester.—Lightfoot, T., Stockport, grocer, first div. of 1½d., any Tuesday, at Mr. Pott's, Manchester.

Markets.

MARK LANE, LONDON, Monday, February 12, 1855.

In consequence of the severity of the weather, we have been very sparingly supplied with both English and foreign Wheat during the past week, and this morning the quantity of English offering was small, much of it however was left unsold; of foreign the sale was extremely limited, but we cannot quote any material change in prices, though the tendency was towards a decline. Flour went off very slowly at nominally previous rates. Barley, Beans, and Peas, much the same as on Monday last. We had a very short arrival of Oats, but it was difficult to obtain any advance upon the prices of last Monday. Linseed and Cakes dull. In Tares little doing. For Cloverseeds there is rather more inquiry.

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat—	s. d.	Wheat—	s. d.
Essex and Kent, Red 68 to 72		Dantrig.....	80 88
Do White.....	72 80	Konigsberg, Red.....	72 84
Linc., Norfolk, & Yorkshire Red.....		Pomeranian, Red.....	74 86
Northumb. & Scotch 66 72		Rostock.....	74 86
Rye.....	46 48	Danish & Holstein.....	72 76
Barley malting (new) 32 35		East Friesland.....	68 70
Distilling.....		Petersburg.....	64 72
Malt (pale).....	62 70	Riga and Archangel.....	58 60
Beans, Maragan.....	42 45	Polish Odessa.....	66 76
Ticks.....		Marianopol.....	76 84
Harrow.....		Taganrog.....	60 62
Pigeon.....		Egyptian.....	52 55
Peas, White.....	40 42	American (U.S.).....	74 82
Grey.....	37 40	Barley Pomeranian.....	32 34
Maple.....	37 40	Konigsberg.....	—
Boilers.....	42 44	Danish.....	31 34
Tares (English).....	50 52	East Friesland.....	28 30
Foreign.....	48 50	Egyptian.....	24 26
Oats (English feed).....	22 29	Odessa.....	24 26
Flour, town made, per sack, of 280 lbs.....	50 70	Beans—	
Linseed, English.....	70 74	Pigeon.....	42 44
Baltic.....	60 62	Egyptian.....	38 40
Black Sea.....	64 68	Peas, White.....	40 44
Hempseed.....	40 44	Oats—	
Canaryseed.....	48 56	Dutch.....	24 28
Cloverseed per cwt. of 112 lbs. English.....	48 52	Jahde.....	24 28
German.....	42 50	Danish.....	23 26
French.....	42 46	Danish yellow feed.....	26 30
American.....	44 46	Swedish.....	26 29
Linseed Cakes, £15 10 to £16 0		Petersburg.....	27 28
Rape Cakes £5 to £6 10 per ton.		Flour, per bar. of 196 lbs.....	
Rapeseed £34 to £36 per last.		New York.....	37 43
		Spanish per sack.....	62 63
		Caraway Seed.....	32 34

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, February 12.

Scarcely any foreign stock was on sale to-day; its quality was very inferior. The fresh arrivals of Beasts from our own grazing districts were very moderate; but they came to hand in full average condition. Owing to the extreme severity of the weather, we had a slow trade for all breeds. In prices, however, we have no change to notice. The top figure for the best Scots was 4s. 10d. per 14 lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received 2,300 Scots and Short-horns; from other parts of England, 508 of various breeds; from Scotland, per railway, 250, and by sea 50 horned and polled Scots. Out of the latter number, 31 were frozen to death on passage from Aberdeen. There was a material falling off in the supply of Sheep, compared with some previous weeks. The quality of this description of stock, however, was prime. The Mutton trade was decidedly firm; and, in some instances, the quotations had an upward tendency, yet the top figure for old Downs did not exceed 5s. per 14 lbs. Very few Calves were in the market. The Veal trade, however, ruled heavy, at a decline in the currencies of 2d. per 14 lbs. The prime Veal was worth 5s. 10d. per 14 lbs. In Pigs, the supply of which was moderate, very little was done at late rates. The arrivals of stock from Ireland, last week, by sea, were 76 Beasts and 24 Pigs.

Per 14 lbs. to sink the offal.

s. d. s. d.				s. d. s. d.			
Coarse and inferior	3	4	3	Prime coarse wool-	4	4	8
Beasts.....	3	4	3	led Sheep.....	4	4	8
Second quality do.....	3	4	2	Prime South Down	4	10	5
Prime large Oxen.....	4	4	6	Sheep.....	4	10	5
Prime Scots, &c.....	4	4	10	Large coarse Calves 4	5	5	3
Coarse and inferior	3	4	3	Prime small do.....	3	4	10
Sheep.....	3	4	3	Large Hogs.....	3	0	4
Second quality do.....	3	10	4	Neat small Porks 4	2	4	4
Suckling Calves, 22s. to 30s.; and quarter-old store Pigs 20s. to 25s. each.							

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, February 12.

The supplies of town and country-killed meat on sale to-day were moderately extensive. The amount of business doing was by no means large. Prices, however, were fairly supported.

Per 14 lbs. by the carcass.

s. d. s. d.				s. d. s. d.			
Inferior Beef.....	3	2	3	Small Pork.....	4	0	4
Middling do.....	3	6	3	Inferior Mutton.....	3	2	3
Prime large do.....	3	10	4	Middling do.....	3	8	10
Do small do.....	4	2	4	Prime do.....	4	0	2
Large Pork.....	3	0	3	Veal.....	4	4	5

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.—We had very cold weather last week, with hard frost and snow. The Butter market was firm, but not active. A good business was done in Irish at full prices, and in some instances is advance was obtained for the best kinds. There was but little doing in foreign in consequence of the non-arrival of the Dutch vessels; we therefore cannot report any variation in the quotations. Of Bacon the sale was slow and limited, at a decline of 1s. per cwt. Hams were in trifling request, and slightly cheaper. Lard in limited demand, at a reduction of 1s. to 2s. The Government contract is reported to have been taken at about £10 to £10 10s. per tierce for beef, and about £10 5s. to £11 for Pork. A large quantity offered at higher rates was refused.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

s. s.		s. s.	
Friesland per cwt.....	114 to 116	Cheshire (new) per cwt.....	66 to 80
Kiel.....	108 to 116	Cheddar.....	68 to 80
Dorset.....	104 to 112	Double Gloucester.....	60 to 70
Carlisle.....	100 to 106	Single do.....	56 to 66
Waterford.....	94 to 100	York Hams (new).....	80 to 86
Cork (new).....	92 to 100	Westmoreland, do.....	78 to 82
Limerick.....	84 to 94	Irish do.....	68 to 78
Sligo.....	96 to 102	Wiltshire Bacon (dried) 68	68
Fresh, per doz. 14s. 6d. 16s. 6d.		Do (green) 59	61

BREAD.—The prices of Wheat and Bread in the Metropolis are from 10d. to 11d.; of Household, do., 8d. to 9d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday Feb. 12.—The fine qualities of Kent and Sussex Hops continue in fair demand, and for such descriptions prices are fully maintained, as the supply to be met with has become limited. Inferior samples are heavy of sale; and the trade for these sorts is materially interfered with by the large quantities of American and other foreign Hops, which may be purchased at comparatively low rates.

Mid and East Kents.....	£14 10s. to £18 0s. to £21
Weald of Kents.....	14 0 to 15 0 to 16
Sussex Pockets.....	14 0 to 14 14 to 15
Yearlings.....	9 0 to 12 0
American (in bond).....	7 0 to 9 0

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, Feb. 10.—The severity of the weather still causes Vegetables to be scarce, and high prices to be realized. Good Peas are confined to No Plus Meuris, Beurre Rance, and Easter Beurre. Grapes fetch good prices. Seville Oranges bring from 7s. to 15s. per hundred; common sorts from 2s. 6d. to 10s. per hundred. Chestnuts, from 10s. to 20s. per bushel; Spanish Nuts, 14s. to 20s. per bushel; Barcelona, from 20s. to 24s.; French Almonds, 3s. per bushel, 65s. per cwt.; Kent Cobs, 180s. per

100 lbs.; and Brazil Nuts, 20s. per bushel. Cucumbers vary from 1s. to 2s. each. Spanish Onions fetch 2s. per dozen. Carrots and Turnips are dear. The trade for all kinds of Potatoes is heavy, and prices are lower. Lettuce realize 9d. to 1s. per score. Cut flowers consist of Passion-flowers, Hignonia venusta, Tulips, Heliotropes, Euphorbias, Poinsettias, Camellias, Chinese Primroses, Heaths, and Roses.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Feb. 12.—Our markets continue to be moderately supplied with potatoes, for which the demand is rather heavy. York Regents are selling at from 105s. to 120s.; Kent and Essex ditto, 100s. to 110s.; red ditto, 80s. to 90s.; middlings, 65s. to 75s.; blues, 75s. to 85s.; cubs, 65s. to 75s.; Lincolns, 90s. to 110s. per ton.

TALLOW, LONDON, Monday, February 12.—Great fluctuations have taken place in our market since Monday last. To-day the business doing is very moderate, and P.Y.C., on the spot, is quoted at 57s. per cwt. Town Tallow, 55s. 6d. per cwt. net cash. Rough Fat, 3s. 14d. per 8 lbs.

Particulars of Tallow.

	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.
Stock.....	42,491	54,211	40,348	38,157	39,055
Price of Y.C.	37s. 6d. to 35s. 6d. to 43s. 9d. to 62s. 6d. to 57s. 0d. to				
Delivery last week	2,120	2,523	1,816	1,647	2,122
Ditto from 1st June	72,571	80,433	74,737	75,558	88,851
Arrived last week	120	1,254	305	1,841	717
Ditto from 1st June	91,200	98,179	74,447	90,590	61,916
Price of Town ...	38s. 6d.	38s. 6d.	45s. 9d.	64s. 9d.	68s. 9d.

COALS, Monday.—We have had no fresh ships for market this day, and none expected for a week. Hartley's, 25s.; Harton, 27s.; Riddell's, 27s.; Harvey Wylam, 22s. 6d.; Whitworth, 24s.; Killingworth East, 22s.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—We have an improved demand for Flax, at full quotations. Hemp is steady, at extreme rates. Clean St. Petersburg is worth £47 to £49 10s. per ton. Jute and Coir goods are quite as dear as last week.

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The imports of Wool into London last week were limited to about 70 bales from Mogadore. The market is quiet for all descriptions pending the auctions of the 15th inst. Notwithstanding that the stocks of English Wool in the hands of manufacturers are very limited, our market continues in a most depressed state. To effect sales, even lower rates must be submitted to for some kinds of Wool. The approaching public sales of Colonial have tended to check private operations.

	s. d.	s. d.
Down legs.....	1 0	1 1
Half-bred Hogs.....	1 0	1 0 1/2
Ewes Clothing.....	0 11	1 0
Kent Fleeces.....	1 0	1 1
Combining Skins.....	0 11	1 0 1/2
Flannel Wool.....	1 0	1 1 1/2
Blanket Wool.....	0 7	1 0
Leicester Fleeces.....	0 11	1 0 1/2

METALS, LONDON, Saturday, Feb. 10.—The demand for Tin is heavy, at further depressed rates. Banca, 108s.; Straits, 105s. to 106s. British is cheaper, with a dull market. Spelter moves off slowly, at £24 10s. to £24 15s. per ton on the spot. Scotch Pig Iron has ruled heavy, at 64s. 6d. to 64s. 9d. per cwt. Copper is tolerably firm; but Lead is very dull and cheaper. Steel supports former terms.

HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, February 10.

Market Hides, 56 to 64 lbs.....	0 3 1/2 to 0 0 pr lb.
Ditto 64 72 lbs.....	0 3 1/2 to 0 3 1/2 "
Ditto 72 80 lbs.....	0 3 1/2 to 0 3 1/2 "
Ditto 80 88 lbs.....	0 3 1/2 to 0 4 "
Ditto 88 96 lbs.....	0 4 to 0 4 1/2 "
Ditto 96 104 lbs.....	0 4 1/2 to 0 4 1/2 "
Ditto 104 112 lbs.....	0 0 to 0 0 "
Ditto Upwards.....	0 0 to 0 0 "
Horse Hides.....	5 6 to 0 0 each.
Calf Skins, light.....	2 0 to 3 0 "
Ditto full.....	6 0 to 0 0 "
Polled Sheep.....	6 0 to 7 3 "
Kents and Half Breeds.....	5 0 to 6 0 "
Downs.....	4 0 to 5 0 "

OILS, MONDAY.—Lined oil is very slow in sale, at 36s. per cwt. on the spot. Rape oils are dull, and the quotations have a downward tendency. The market for Olive is steady. In Cocoa-Nut and Palm, very few transactions have taken place. Turpentine is rather firmer, with very moderate arrivals.

SEEDS, MONDAY.—The demand for Cloverseed is to some extent checked by the severe weather, but the trade has now commenced, and a fair supply of New English has come forward, and found buyers at full prices. New English white seed is of fine quality, and obtains high rates, 58s. to 76s. The supply of French seed is limited, and holders are firm. Trefoils are in limited supply and fully maintain their value. Canaryseed is steady in value. There has been a moderate enquiry for both red and white Cloverseed, at our quotations. Linseed is in fair request, at full prices. Canary and all other seeds are dull in sale. Cakes are tolerably firm.

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